

Hafa Adai!

Saipan

75¢

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PORT CALL

Cruise ship *Costa Atlantica* makes a port call on Saipan on Jan. 7. This was the second time for the vessel to visit Saipan; it first docked here on Dec. 6, 2016.

ERWIN ENCINARES

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Cameron backs Marianas Trench Sanctuary designation. [PAGE 2](#)
Groups insist on standing to sue Navy over live-fire plan. [Page 3](#)

Casino puts off soft opening

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific Resort won't be able to open its casino in time for this year's Lunar New Year, but it remains on track to begin operations in the first quarter of 2017, according to a statement sent to *Saipan Tribune* last week.

In a voluntary announcement filed with the Hong Kong Stocks Exchange, Imperial Pacific International Holdings, Ltd. executive director Cai Lingli said that they wouldn't be able to pursue the soft opening that was originally scheduled on Jan. 28, Saturday, the Year of the

See CASINO on Page 4

Sasamoto is CHCC's new CFO

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has hired Derek Sasamoto to be the corporation's new chief financial officer.

Sasamoto, the former finance and budget director of the Public School System, took over the CFO position last Dec. 5.

Sasamoto said he took on the position because of his genuine interest and aspiration to assist the islands' lone public hospital.

"If I can achieve success within my areas of responsibility as CFO, then that success equates to success for CHCC and our hospital. This success then translates into improved services and care for our com-

munity," said Sasamoto in an email message.

"I simply want our hospital to succeed in order to benefit our community as a whole," he added.

Sasamoto conceded that there will be challenges but he is willing to take the time to help improve CHCC's financials.

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Apatang to nominate Tudela

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang plans to nominate Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Antonia Tudela to serve a seventh straight term as councilor, alongside elected councilors Diego Kai-pat and L.J. Castro.

"I'll be nominating Antonia Tudela to the vacant



Apatang



Tudela

position at the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council. She's been there at

the municipal council for a long time already and she's got experience. As a matter of fact, she is the chairperson at this time. Also, while I was away on personal leave, she's been acting mayor," said Apatang in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Friday at the Saipan Mayor's Office in Oleai.

See APATANG on Page 4

19th Legislature closes out session

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Members of the CNMI House of Representatives exchanged well wishes before adjourning last week. The 20th Legislature opens today with six new

members joining incumbents that were re-elected.

House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), who would retain his post, praised everyone for making the 19th Legislature one of the most productive. "I pray for

a prosperous 2017 for all of us as we conclude our work in the 19th Legislature. I honor each one of you for representing the people to the best of your abilities."

"It has been two productive
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INSIDE



NATION

The Iraq war veteran accused of killing five travelers at an airport in Florida is charged.

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ASIA

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte tours one of the two Russian warships in Manila.

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WORLD

From being a bandleader, the United States becomes a bystander to the Syria civil war.

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Local

Cameron backs Marianas Trench Sanctuary designation

James Cameron, director of Hollywood blockbusters *Avatar*, *The Abyss*, and *Titanic*, has penned a letter to President Barack Obama asking him to “finish the work of protecting the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument through a national marine sanctuary designation.”

Cameron is also the only human to ever dive solo to Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench, the deepest point in the world’s ocean.

The letter states that the Obama Administration has built a legacy of ocean protection unrivaled by any president in American history. The letter also points to the role of the ocean as the planet’s largest ecosystem and crucial role as a climate regulator.

“Large, strongly protected



Film director James Cameron emerges after diving solo to Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench, the deepest point in the world’s ocean.

MARK THIESSEN/NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

marine reserves have emerged as important policy solutions [that] carry the dual benefit of both marine climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies,” wrote Cameron. “By increasing ocean health, strongly protected marine reserves are one of the most efficient means to protect Earth and its climate.”

The International Union for Conservation of Nature recommends protecting 30 percent of the ocean.

“We are thankful to Mr. Cameron for helping us bring more protection to the Mariana Trench,” said Ignacio Cabrera, chairman of the Friends of the Marianas Trench. “His dive in 2012 shone a bright light on our unique and globally significant natural resources, now he is helping us bring attention

to the need to protect it for our kids and their kids.”

In September, Gov. Ralph DeLeon Guerrero Torres and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) wrote to Obama, kicking off a local effort to bring the NOAA Sanctuary program to the Northern Mariana Islands.

The plan has raised the ire of the vice chair of the controversial Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, who argues that industrial fishing and deep sea mining are a better use of these rare ecosystems and natural resources. However, the plan enjoys the support of nearly every elected official in the Northern Mariana Islands, including the Legislature, mayors, and municipal council members. (PR)

Sex trafficking leader to be resentenced

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The appellate court has vacated the 235-month prison sentence imposed on a man accused of sex trafficking and the federal court on Friday set the resentencing later this month.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set Wei Lin’s resentencing for Jan. 27 at 9am.

The U.S. government will be asking the court to impose the same sentence, according to the minutes of the conference, quoting assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe.

Attorney Benjamin Petersburg, on behalf of Lin’s court-

appointed counsel Bruce Berline, stated that based on his conservative calculation, the sentencing guideline range is between 41 and 51 months.

Lin has been in federal prison for 63 months now, since September 2011.

Manglona said the information she received from the U.S. Marshal’s Office was that it will take about three weeks for Lin to be transported back for the hearing.

Petersburg informed the court that he was told by the U.S. Marshal that all they need is a court order for Lin to appear for the proceeding.

Last November, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit vacated the fed-

eral court’s sentence of 235 months imprisonment imposed on Lin, who was convicted of sex trafficking when he lured women from China on false promises of jobs and then forced them into prostitution once they got on Saipan.

The Ninth Circuit reversed Manglona’s base offense level determination, saying she erred in calculating Lin’s base offense level, and remanded the case for resentencing.

The Ninth Circuit’s decision makes Lin’s guilty plea withdrawal argument moot since he wanted to withdraw his guilty plea because his base offense level was set at 34. Under base offense level 34, the sentence is between 151 months to 188

months imprisonment.

The Ninth Circuit judges said they need not reach Lin’s substantive unreasonableness argument since they vacate his sentence on the base offense level error.

The indictment charged Lin with conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and several counts of sex trafficking. Lin pleaded guilty to the conspiracy count, which carried no mandatory minimum.

In exchange, the substantive sex trafficking offenses, which carried 15-year mandatory minimums, were dismissed.

After Manglona made it clear that the base offense level for Lin’s crime would be 34, Lin moved to withdraw his guilty plea, based on Berline’s advice that his base offense

level would be 14.

Manglona denied Lin’s motion and sentenced him in March 2015 to 235 months in prison.

Lin, through Berline, appealed to the Ninth Circuit. He argued that Manglona erred in determining his base offense level.

Berline asserted that if Manglona correctly determined his base offense level, then the judge erred in denying his motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

Manglona found that the U.S. government had proven by clear and convincing evidence that Lin was the leader of the sex trafficking organization.

A superseding indictment charged Lin and co-defendant Yanchun Li with a count of

conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and to benefit financially from a sex trafficking venture; three counts of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion; and one count of financially benefitting from a sex trafficking venture.

In June 2012, Lin pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and to benefit financially from a sex trafficking venture.

Li also pleaded guilty and was sentenced in February 2013 to 60 months or a five-year prison.

According to the indictment, Rosen Music Studio was a karaoke bar in Chalan Laulau that also provided sexual services for an added fee. Most, if not all, of the commercial sexual acts were performed outside the bar.

In exchange for a portion of the proceeds, Lin provided Rosen Music Studio with women to perform sexual services.

Lin paid Li to, among other things, transport the women back and forth from the Rosen Music Studio to the Hong Apartment, and in some cases, to and from hotels.

The three Chinese women victims traveled to the CNMI in 2010 based upon Lin’s promises such as jobs at a new hotel that Lin was purportedly opening on Saipan.

The defendants collected from each of the three victims over \$4,000, took their passports, and told them they would likely be killed by criminals, if they go outside.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case with the assistance of the Department of Homeland Security/Homeland Security Investigations.



PRIOR LEARNING INFO SESSION

More than 100 attendees listen in as Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez gives her opening remarks during last Thursday’s information session for NMC’s new Prior Learning Assessment program. The program is designed to help individuals earn college credit from demonstrable knowledge they have gained from employment training programs, military service, work and life experiences. For more info on the PLA program, visit marianas.edu.

NMC

Groups insist on standing to sue Navy over live-fire plan

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The four environmental and cultural preservation groups that are challenging the U.S. Navy's decision to relocate 5,000 Marines from Okinawa to Guam are insisting that their claims are justiciable and that they have standing to sue.

The Tinian Women's Association, Guardians of Gani, Pagan Watch, and the Center for Biological Diversity, through Earthjustice counsel David L. Henkin, have filed in federal court their opposition to the U.S. government's motion to dismiss the lawsuit for lack of jurisdiction.

Henkin asserted that there is no valid basis for the U.S. District Court for the NMI to "abdicate its Article III responsibility—the resolution of 'cases and controversies'—in favor of the Executive Branch.

Henkin asked the court to proceed in resolving the merits of plaintiffs' claims, carrying out "the duty of the judicial departments to say what the law is."

The plaintiffs are suing the U.S. Department of Navy, Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, U.S. Department of Defense, and Defense Secretary Ashton Carter over the Navy's decision to station thousands of U.S. Marines in Guam and to conduct live-fire training for those Marines on Tinian and Pagan.

The U.S. government, through U.S. Department of Justice Environmental and

Natural Resources Division trial attorney Taylor N. Ferrell, asked the court to dismiss the plaintiffs' complaint.

Ferrell argued, among others, that the request to slow or stop the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to Guam—based upon Navy's alleged failure to consider alternative locations outside of the Marianas—is barred by the political question doctrine.

Ferrell said the decision is a policy choice of the Executive Branch—a policy choice that the Executive Branch has formalized in a binding international agreement with Japan.

Henkin pointed out that, under this theory, if the secretary of State enters into an agreement with a foreign country, federal agencies are free to ignore environmental laws enacted by Congress and carry out destructive projects on American soil, with the federal courts powerless to hear challenges to that illegal conduct, much less provide relief to American citizens.

Henkin said the court should reject the call for the court to "shirk its constitutional responsibility merely because its decision may have significant political overtones."

Citing a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, Henkin said "it is error to suppose that every case or controversy which touches foreign relations lies beyond judicial cognizance."

The lawyer said under the specific facts of this case, where the National Environmental Policy Act imposes

purely procedural requirements and the U.S.' agreements with Japan contemplate compliance with NEPA before Marines relocate from Okinawa, plaintiffs' claims—including any potential claim

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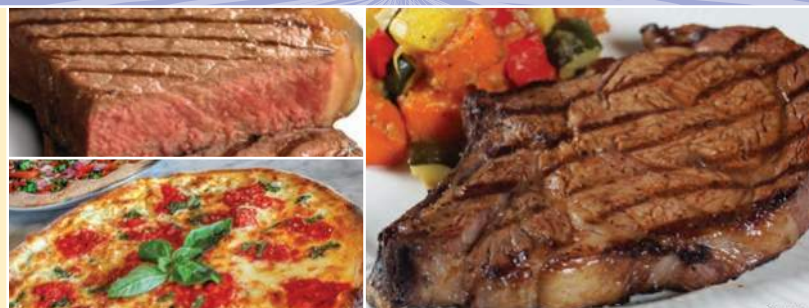
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RED MASS

JON PEREZ

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, from seventh left, first lady Diann Torres, and Chalan Kanoa Diocese Bishop Ryan Jimenez join members of the 20th CNMI Legislature and the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council for a group photo after last Saturday's inaugural Mass at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

SESSION

From Page 1

years that is based on respect, cooperation, and reaching a common ground. A highlight of our work as representatives of the people was when we came together in recovering from one of the worst disasters to hit Saipan.

He added there are still a lot of things that need to be done and asked the public to join them in addressing some key issues in the Commonwealth. "We can't solve everything on

our own. We must be unwavering in our commitment to solve some of our problems."

"Together we can solve these issues. We recognize the 'ice' epidemic and we must strengthen our efforts to combat this menace. We have made some progress with the drug court and rehabilitation center but there's still a lot of work that needs to be done."

Vice Speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said it has been an interesting 19th Legislature since for the first time in CNMI history a shared speakership took place.

He ran under the Republican Party last election and won.

"A lot of people said it was not going to work and it was shaky at first but through the open mindedness it worked. It showed two different styles of leadership. The 19th is one of the best that I had to work with, where we reached a certain level of maturity."

"Our deliberations may be partisan and our votes go another way but it speaks of our maturity. We were faced with a lot of challenges but managed to pass meaningful bills. The people had been well re-

resented and every member rose to the occasion."

Outgoing floor leader George N. Camacho (R-Saipan) said it has been an honor serving the people, especially Precinct 4. "It has been an honor to represent the people of Precinct 4 and you and a privilege to work with my colleagues here in the House."

"Not all of us are given the chance to serve the people and I have served the people to the best of my abilities. We accomplished a lot, appropriated more money, and had a lot of

significant work done."

Minority leader Ramon A. Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) thanked the shared leadership of Deleapan and Deleon Guerrero. "We might argue and debate passionately on several issues but there's nothing personal and we're just doing our job. At the end of the day, we respect each other's positions."

Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Roman C. Benavente (Ind-Saipan), Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Ralph N. Yumul were unlucky in their respective re-election bids while Reps. Felicidad T. Ogumoro and Francis S. Taimanao decided not to run again.

Representatives-elect Francisco C. Aguon, Donald C. Barcinas, Ivan A. Blanco, Alice S. Igitol, Jose I. Itibus, and Gregorio M. Sablan Jr. are the new faces in the House and will be joining the returning Francisco S. Dela Cruz and Janet U. Maratita.

GOP representatives Edwin P. Aldan, Angel A. Deleapan, Joseph Leepan Guerrero, Glenn L. Maratita, and John Paul Sablan, and independents Blas Jonathan T. Attao, Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero, Edwin K. Propst, Vinson E. Sablan, and minority leader Edmund S. Villagomez are the other members of the House.

APATANG

From Page 1

The Saipan mayor said it's almost a no-brainer for him to nominate Tudela.

"I have no problem with her. She's a good councilwoman. She's also very active. The Northern Islands mayor also nominated her," he said.

Tudela said she's humbled with Apatang and Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan's gestures to nominate her for the vacant post at the council.

"My term is already ending. If the mayors appoint me, it's going to be my seventh. I already served 12 years. I've been chairperson before, vice chair, as well as secretary. I'm very happy mayor Apatang and mayor [Jerome] Aldan are thinking of appointing me. I'm really overwhelmed with that," she told *Saipan Tribune* during an interview last Friday at the Kiosku Round House in

Chalan Kanoa.

The Northern Islands Legislative Delegation will have to approve Tudela's nomination.

The 14th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council will hold its first organizational session today, Jan. 9, at the Kiosku Round House in Chalan Kanoa.

The event will have Kaipat and Castro taking their oaths of office. That will also serve as the end of Tudela's term as chairwoman and councilor of the 13th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council. Apatang already confirmed that as soon as that happens he will immediately nominate Tudela to the vacant post.

Only Castro and Kaipat ran for the three positions available for the council during the 2016 general elections. The former topped the vote with 8,308 votes; the latter got 7,004.

Alice Igitol, who is the current vice chair, won a seat in

the House of Representatives in the same polls, while Reina Camacho opted not to run for another term. Tudela failed to file her certificate of candidacy as she had a health scare in Guam.

"I went to Rota for a meeting and I got sick. I was on Rota because we had a meeting with all the mayors of the CNMI and Guam. On my way back I had to transit to Guam and I felt sick," Tudela told *Saipan Tribune*.

"I went to a hospital and the doctor told me to take the medicine and said it looked like I was going to have pneumonia," she said, adding that she failed to come back to Saipan to file her candidacy because she decided to prioritize her health first. "Especially at my age."

Tudela said she's now fit as a fiddle and is raring to make a comeback.

"I'm OK now and I'm coming back. We don't get paid

and it's voluntary. It's in my blood to help the people and assist the community. As long as I have my health I will continue to work at the municipal council," she said.

Tudela said her track record also speaks for itself.

"We accomplished a lot, like helping continue the Neighborhood Watch, collaboration with the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, and government agencies like the Office of Indigenous Affairs," she said.

She no longer plans to seek the council's chairmanship.

"I think those two have decided. I will give them—Castro and Kaipat—the chance [to lead] because they're elected. I think there's an agreement between the two of them already who's going to be the chair. It's going to be through acclimation. I'm very happy to support whoever becomes the chairman." (Mark Rabago)

Sasamoto said he is also excited to start working with Muña.

"Based on my interactions with the CEO thus far, I truly believe in her leadership. She is a real CEO. She is very supportive and I can see she expects a lot, which of course should be expected. We are serving the community and it is our responsibility to perform for everyone's benefit," said Sasamoto.

Sasamoto has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in business administration, both from Gonzaga University in Washington.

Sasamoto served as comptroller for the Commonwealth Ports Authority and director of finance for the PSS prior to applying for the CFO position at CHCC. Sasamoto has also served as an analyst for the Office of the Public Auditor.

GROUPS

From Page 3

for injunctive relief—are justiciable.

Henkin also argued that there is no basis for the argument that plaintiffs are not challenging the final agency action and that, therefore, their claims are not ripe.

The plaintiffs asked the court to declare that the defendants have violated and are violating the NEPA and Administrative Procedure Act by adopting and relying on the legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement and the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements to issue records of decision regarding the relocation of

Marines from Okinawa to the Mariana Islands.

The plaintiffs requested the court to vacate and set aside the 2010 and 2015 records of decision regarding the relocation of Marines from Okinawa to the Marianas.

In the defendants' motion to dismiss filed on Wednesday, Ferrell said the plaintiffs lack standing because the court cannot act to redress their alleged injuries.

In 2012, U.S. and Japan modified their 2006 agreement on reducing the number of Marines stationed on Okinawa. Under the revised agreement, approximately 9,000 Marines would leave Okinawa, but only approximately 5,000 would be relocated to Guam.

Construction of the casino resort, however, is running according to plan, Cai said in the announcement. "The construction of the Group's Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan, Saipan had been progressing smoothly with over 2,000 [laborers] working around-the-clock to ensure early completion." Imperial Pacific Resort, once completed, will have 400 hotel rooms while its casino will house more than 200 gaming tables and over 300 slot machines.

SASAMOTO

From Page 1

"It will take time but I believe I have the background and experience to hopefully improve things at CHCC," he said. "I am prepared to battle through all the challenges in the hopes of improving CHCC financially and in terms of compliance."

CHCC chief executive of-

ficer Esther Muña said she is excited to have Sasamoto on the CHCC staff.

"His vast experience of working in government, health accounting, and audit as well as his knowledge in business administration, will help CHCC," said Muña.

"With a strong fiscal team, led by Derek [Sasamoto], CHCC will be successful in its mission to improve the health of our people," she added.

'Payment of NMS' services should come from ship's sale'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The former captain and six other crewmembers of cargo ship M/V *Luta* have no funds to pay for the vessel's custodial services as they have not been paid their wages for months now.

Capt. Michael Brochon and the six crewmembers, through counsel David G. Banes, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI that their share of custodial costs should come from the sale of M/V *Luta*.

They also asked the court to determine the reasonableness of the fees.

The seven have intervened in Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto's lawsuit against Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog and the owner/operators of the vessel to collect \$199,147.77 in unpaid wages.

Their latest court filing is a partial objection to a court or-

der apportioning custodial fees.

Last Dec. 22, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Goode denied the request of M/V *Luta* custodian, National Maritime Services Inc., to order Yamamoto to immediately pay \$72,462.33 for custodian services from October to December 2016.

Tydingco-Goode ruled that all parties are responsible to share in advancing funds to the U.S. Marshal Service in proportion to the value of their claims on the vessel.

NMS, through counsel Sean E. Frink, asked the court to require Yamamoto to pay it \$72,462.33 for custodian services from October to December 2016. It requested the court to hold only Yamamoto liable to pay the entire amount.

Yamamoto, through counsel Lloyd Hasselback, however, argued that he should

only have to pay his portion of custodial fees and expenses, in proportion of the value of his claim against M/V *Luta*.

Yamamoto is suing Lt. Gov. Hocog and the owner/operators of M/V *Luta* for allegedly refusing to pay back the \$3.4 million that he put up for the vessel.

He asked the court last week not to issue an order requiring immediate payment of custodian services for the ship solely by him.

Yamamoto asserted that all intervenors in this lawsuit should also share payment of the custodian fees.

After Yamamoto filed the lawsuit last Oct. 25, the U.S. Marshal Service seized M/V *Luta*. NMS was subsequently appointed as custodian.

Two companies also joined as intervenors in the lawsuit to collect payment of various services.

Ex-convict gets 21 mos. for having 2 guns

The federal court has imposed a 21-month prison sentence on an ex-convict who pleaded guilty to two counts of felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Herman P. Santos was given credit for time served. Upon his release, he will be placed on supervised release for three years.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona

V. Manglona granted Santos' lawyer's request for the court to recommend to the Bureau of Prisons that Santos be placed in a treatment facility for both substance abuse and alcohol abuse.

Manglona ordered Santos to relinquish to the U.S. all right, title, and interest in one Harrington and Richardson .32 caliber revolver, one Savage Arms 410/22 "over and

under" firearm, three rounds of .32 caliber ammunitions, 11 rounds of .22 ammunition, and two .410 shotgun shells. The items were seized from him on Dec. 6, 2015.

Santos was also allegedly found in possession of a Savage Arms Model 24 410/22 "over and under" firearm and 11 rounds of .22 ammunition and two .410 shotgun shells, on June 3, 2016. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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More sightings of jellyfish in lagoon

The Department of Fish and Wildlife has noted an increase in sightings of jellyfish within the

Saipan lagoon.

This prompted the division to issue a warning

yesterday, informing the public, beach goers, swimmers, divers and fishermen

of the increased number of jellyfish sightings.

"The public is advised to take precautionary measures when entering the water where jellyfish are

present. Jellyfish sting can be dangerous and cause serious symptoms including nausea, vomiting, and respiratory distress," the division said. **(PR)**

New UFO president ready to take on challenges



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Philippine honorary consul Glicerio "Eli" Arago, right, swears in the new officers of the United Filipino Organization led by president Marlon Regaton, second right, during an induction ceremony held last Dec. 9.

Marlon Regaton, the newly installed president of the United Filipino Organization, had no plans of becoming the leader

of the umbrella organization of Filipino community groups on Saipan.

The 41-year-old sales man-

ager of Bestseller Bookstore Saipan said his ascension to the UFO presidency was entirely unplanned.

"I was nominated and can't decline. As they say let the voting/election roll. I got the support of the majority and

that's it. I appreciate the trust and confidence of the nine organizations present during the election," he said in a social media message to *Saipan Tribune* from the Philippines, where he's on vacation.

Regaton said he is ready to lead the organization once he returns to Saipan this Wednesday, Jan. 11.

"Initially, I would like to come up with a member organizations meeting and sit down for a UFO reorientation, hopefully to level off and come up with a one-year plan. Plans will depend on the result of the initial planning. But other UFO activities will still be there, in collaboration with the different member organizations," he said.

Some of the signature UFO events are the Pusong Pinoy in February, Pistang Pinoy in June, and Paskong Pinoy in

December. UFO also hosts pageants and the very popular UFO basketball league throughout the year.

Aside from Regaton, who represented Akap Pinoy in the UFO, others elected during the UFO general election late last year were Northern Marianas Bartenders Association's Lito Espino as vice president; Bayani Association's Bok Enano and Evelyn Deaza as secretary and treasurer, respectively; Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants' Gerry De Guzman as auditor; and Lito Marquez of Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers and Architects as PRO.

Regaton and company was sworn into office during an induction ceremony held last Dec. 8. The Philippines' honorary consul to Saipan, Glicerio "Eli" Arago, was the guest of honor at the induction ceremony.

Regaton takes over from former UFO president Bong Malasarte, who has held the post since 2014.

"As we have come to the end of my two-year term as the president of United Filipino Organization of the Northern Marianas Islands, I want to thank all of you for the honor and privilege given me to lead this organization. I also want to thank the executive officers, committee leaders, volunteers, all supportive sponsors, and especially my wife for working with me over the past two years in making this organization worthy of its name. I am proud of the Filipino and Saipan community for the support that made UFO strong. I hope that all officers and members continue to demonstrate a sense of responsibility without waiting to be reminded," Malasarte said.

Release of passports

Arago's office also made public the dates of the release of renewed Philippine passports.

Volunteer Annamae Adaza said those who renewed their passports in October and November 2016 can pick up their new passports at the second floor of JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan (*Saipan Tribune* office) on the following dates:

■ Jan. 11, 2017 (Wednesday), 5pm-8pm

■ Jan. 12, 2017 (Thursday), 5pm-8pm

■ Jan. 13, 2017 (Friday), 5pm-8pm

■ Jan. 14, 2017 (Saturday), 1pm-6pm

Bring your old passport and receipts. For more details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293 or Adaza at 483-5237. **(Mark Rabago)**

Micronesia Challenge

THE MICRONESIA CHALLENGE IN THE CNMI HELPS TO PROTECT:

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What is it?

The Micronesia Challenge is a commitment made by 5 countries to preserve the natural resources that are crucial to the survival of the Pacific traditions, cultures and livelihood.

5 Countries in the Pacific

CNMI • Republic of Palau
Marshall Islands • Guam
Federated States of Micronesia

Our Goal

To effectively conserve at least 30% of the near-shore marine resources and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020.



Who Am I?

Håfa Adai! My name is Katelynn Delos Reyes and I am the CNMI's current Micronesia Challenge Young Champion. As a Natural Resource Management major at NMC, I have discovered my passion in environmental conservation. As this year's MCYC, my goal is to inspire others to think about the lasting effects their actions may have on our natural environment. Growing up in paradise shouldn't be taken for granted. As islanders, we must take care of our home so it can continue to provide for us.

*"The Land & the Sea
are the Pride of our Culture"*

In collaboration with the State Rehabilitation Council and the Workforce Investment Agency under the CNMI Department of Labor, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation successfully found jobs and provided rehabilitation services for 48 clients at the closing of the year.

Labor Secretary and former State Rehabilitation Council member Edith Deleon Guerrero said that workforce development includes individuals with disabilities, youth, the aging, minorities, and all able-bodied workers.

"We continue to place great effort in working closely with the training providers to develop training programs that are responsive to the needs

Job opportunities for those with disabilities

of the business community. Doing so builds the necessary workforce talent and skills of the CNMI's human capital, which aligns with the increased CNMI economic development activities. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has made definitive strides to address the CW cap issue while current developments show that jobs are being created for everyone," Deleon Guerrero said.

The Northern Mariana Islands State Rehabilitation Council and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation presented their FY 2016 Annual Report this week, noting a 118-percent increase in case closure

from the previous year's case closure information.

Torres said that the council and OVR support and prepare employers and employees with disabilities for competitive integrated employment.

"In the past year, the integration of key partners in workforce development has improved. Work training is a significant priority and providing opportunities for employment to the people of the Commonwealth relies on these partnerships. I extend my appreciation to WIA, OVR, and SRC for their tireless efforts in supporting full

inclusion of workers with disabilities and their right to live independently," Torres said.

According to OVR, the previous year's caseload represented 10.4-percent increase, with over 300 individuals seeking assistance.

Deleon Guerrero noted that data sharing to better provide work experience and training for clients has increased.

"Communication between OVR and WIA has progressed in terms of training placement and fulfilling certification requirements. From pre-employment to transitioning, our partners have been steadfast in

employment support and work readiness," Deleon Guerrero said.

OVR director Arlene Yamagata, MS, CRC said that a total of 12 employers/businesses partnered with OVR to provide work-experience training and/or on-the-job training, representing a 9.1-percent increase, including 13 employers/businesses who hired OVR consumers, representing a 225-percent increase from previous years.

Expressing her heartfelt appreciation to the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Torres, and the State Reha-

bilitation Council under the leadership of former chair Pamela Sablan and current chair Elizabeth Ada for their continued support, Yamagata said the path to achieving successful employment outcomes is complex.

"... Each stakeholder's spirit and tenacity to moving past obstacles is what culminates in success, which is the case with the 48 cases that were closed last fiscal year. When the going gets tough, these individuals do not give up because they believe in their clients and in the pursuit of each client's dream. Together, we can do so much for our clients, their families, and our communities," Yamagata said. (PR)



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that excites

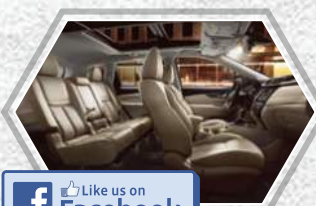
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Costa Atlantica makes 2nd stop on Saipan

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The gigantic cruise ship *Costa Atlantica* made its way back to Saipan last Jan. 7 for the second time in a single trip, carrying the same tourists back since its first docking on Dec. 6, 2016.

A single *Costa Atlantica* trip lasts 46 days, docking in various countries such as Japan, South Korea, Papua New Guinea, and China, to name a few.

For Day 39, the *Costa Atlantica* docked at Saipan's Baker Dock, the second time the 960-foot cruise ship ar-

rived on the island.

Costa Atlantica tour manager Valeria Nannini said the 1,900 tourists on board loved Saipan but unfortunately for the *Costa Atlantica*, there are no more port calls to follow.

"There aren't any subsequent calls, particularly for this ship, but hopefully in the

future, there will be more," said Nannini.

Nannini said that many tourists enjoy the activities that Saipan has to offer.

"The tourists like strolling around Saipan. They really like how [nature on Saipan is.] They go snorkeling, ride all-terrain vehicles, and many

more, so many people are really attracted to visit the island," said Nannini.

The tourists follow an itinerary that takes them to various tourist attractions, so as to not leave behind any tourists behind when the ship leaves.

"We have a service for excursion and shuttle buses, so they already know what to do. They have been informed that they can go around and enjoy

the services and restaurants, before coming back for the ship's departure."

According to Nannini, the cruise ship would stay on Saipan until 5pm today.

Costa Atlantica's previous port call was in Nanjing, China. *Costa Atlantica* dropped by Saipan on its way to Busan, South Korea.

Saipan Shipping Co. acted as vessel agent to *Costa Atlantica*.

JKPL holds successful canned food, toy drive

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library raised 16 boxes in all during its canned food, clothes, and toy drive last month, according to library as-

sistant Ray Deleon Guerrero.

"The donation drive was a success with a total of 16 boxes worth of clothes, food, and toys, and sandals," he

said. "The donation drive was a success with kind and generous donations from people who wanted to help out and in the spirit of Christ-

mas as well."

On behalf of Karidat Social Services and the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Deleon Guerrero thanked everyone who donated. He also credited Lollipops for donating clothes,

sandals, and children's books.

"Thank you Lollipops and people of the CNMI for your donations to assist those in need and continue spreading kindness all around!" he said.

New collections

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and Tinian Public Library added new items to their new collections in December.

Deleon Guerrero said both libraries have 142 new items.

The books range from AV2, juveniles, to young adults, and adults, as well as Pacific and Asian books. Recommended books are: *47 Ronin*, *Painted Ladies*, *Buried Prey*, *Friends Forever*, *Wish you Were Here*, *Liza*, *Lexi the Firefly Fairy*, *Apprentice in Death*, *Two by Two*, *Commonwealth: A Novel*, *Big Mouth & Ugly Girl*, *The Pilgrims of Rayne*, and *Wolfsbane*. JKPL also

has new magazines.


"Our new collection of books will be appreciated by not only the regular patrons of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, but [also] by people who haven't visited our public library and have wondered what types of books and other items we release each month. It is not only to promote literacy but inform people of what's new, what's up, and what's happening," said Deleon Guerrero.

He encouraged the public to stop by and check out JKPL's daily book sale section of books ranging from children's/young adults, and adult fiction, nonfiction books, biography, music, educational, medical books, Japanese/Chinese, and Korean books as well.

"Our book sale special will be, 'Buy 10, Get 5 for Free.' So come and enjoy our books!" he said. *(Mark Rabago)*




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Karidat Social Services staff shows the clothes, toys, and other items donated by companies and individuals to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library last December.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-17-010

SAIPAN SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

(S-14-035)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of sewer line in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) in the area of San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, and Susupe Village. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The Project is to replace approximately ± 260 LF of existing 10-inch ACP, ± 2200 LF of existing 8-inch ACP, and ± 250 LF of existing 6-inch ACP, existing sewer manhole rehabilitation, installation of new concrete sewer manhole, 4-inch and 6-inch service lateral connections, installation and monitoring of wastewater temporary by-pass pumping system and road restoration.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **January 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-17-010, Saipan Sewer Line Replacement Project"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 02, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.


All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 17, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email address birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.


GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION TO BID

CUC-ITB-17-015

SALE AND REMOVAL OF SCRAP MATERIALS FROM THE WAREHOUSE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Scrap materials located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-17-015, CUC Sale & Removal of Scrap Materials from the Warehouse"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 17, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the scrap materials. CUC shall transfer and assign the scrap materials to the prospective bidder in an "As is, Where is" condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the scrap materials.

The scrap materials may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Warehouse Division at telephone no. 322-6585.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 9, 2017, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

7 nominees for 2016 Business Person of the Year

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce announced Friday the seven nominees for its annual Business Person of the Year award: Donna Krum of Friends First Marketing; Hans Michelson of IT&E; Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions; John Compton of IT&E; Michael S. Sablan of Triple J Saipan; Tyrell Pauling of Hyatt Regency Saipan; and W. Andrew Ashburn of N15 Architects.

Of the seven nominees, only Arenovski is a prior recipient of the award, in 2011, in his capacity as head of Delta Management Corp.

The winner will be kept secret until the announcement on Jan. 28 at the Chamber's annual installation dinner at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The dinner, from 6pm to 9pm, will see the Chamber's new officers assuming their new roles. Business managers and owners, government officials, and young professionals gather for a fabulous dinner. The Chamber will also induct its new board directors and recognize outgoing directors.

Each nominee for the 2016 Business Person of the Year must be a Chamber member and must reside on Saipan. Qualifying criteria includes ac-

tive participation in the Chamber's meetings, programs and activities; community involvement and contributions; and support for our local workforce.

The nominations will be judged by prior award recipients: Alex Youn of AC Pacific (2015), Vicky Benavente of Pacific Islands Club (2014), Marcie Tomokane of Bank of Guam (2013), Arenovski, Robert "Bob" Jones of Triple J Corp. (2010), Vicente "Ben" Babauta of DFS Saipan (2009), Kathryn H. Barry of KB Communications (2008), K.J. Kim of Asiana Airlines (2007), Juan T. Guerrero of Herman's Bakery/MITA Travel (2006), David M. Sablan Sr. of Century Insurance (2005), Mark Erwin of Continental Airlines (2004), Jerry Tan of TanHoldings (2003), Alex A Sablan of Saipan Shipping Company (2002), Jay B. Jones of Triple J Motors (2001), Wendi S. Herring of Pacific Islands Club (2000), Marian Aldan-Pierce of DFS Saipan (1999), Joe C. Ayuyu of McDonalds of Saipan (1998), Edward Camacho of Pacific Financial Corp (1997) and Efrain F. Camacho of EFC Engineers and Architects (1996). The late Anthony Peligrino of Saipan Sea Ventures was a recipient in 2012.

The 2017 board will be sworn in by Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph James N. Camacho.

A silent auction fundraiser will feature a large variety of valuable prizes, donated by member businesses. Proceeds of the auction will support

the programs and activities of the Chamber such as its annual scholarships, educational workshops, employment training seminars, military vessel

welcomes, and Saipan Young Professionals activities.

Seating is limited. Ticket prices are available by advance purchase only and are

\$65 per person.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization consisting of private businesses, nonprofit

organizations, and government agencies. Call 234-7150 or visit the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe for more information. Website: www.saipanchamber.com. Facebook: Saipan Chamber of Commerce. (PR)

Walk a mile (or two or three) with UOG!

Step-by-step the people of Guam can improve their health. With a little help from the University of Guam, the island community can be one step closer with new village walking/running maps.

The maps feature popular trails and paths throughout the island. Each provides detailed illustrations of trails, distance information, difficulty level,

» UOG designs village walking/running trail maps

and type of terrain. Some provide healthy living tips.

"The project is a collaboration between UOG Triton Athletics department and the College of Natural and Applied Sciences," said Jim Hollyer, associate dean for Extension & Outreach at CNAS. "We just wanted a way for our community to know exactly how far they are going on various pathways, and the mapping project is one of those ways."

Dr. Tanisha Aflague, with the Community Nutrition Education Program at CNAS-Extension & Outreach, collaborated with the Children Healthy Living Program and Non-Communi-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

University of Guam officials hold up a new walking/running trail for the UOG campus. The UOG College of Natural and Applied Sciences Research Extension and Triton Athletics collaborated on walking/running trail maps for several villages. The maps are available online at <http://cnas-re.uog.edu/walking-maps/>. From left: CNAS-RE graphic artist Emily Shipp, assistant professor of Nutrition Dr. Tanisha Aflague, CNAS associate dean for Research and Extension Jim Hollyer, and UOG Athletic director Doug Palmer.

nicable Disease Consortium to develop Walk-A-Mile maps in select villages for community wellness programs, including the UOG campus.

"We were inspired by first lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move campaign that features parks, paths, and playgrounds to be physically active," Aflague said. "We've localized this concept to sustain efforts and partnerships initiated by the CHL Program."

For many seeking an ocean view and light breezes while running laps, the University of Guam is a favorite destination. The UOG map features over 17 different trail combinations including the famous Marine Lab hill and is posted at the Calvo Field House entrance.

"At UOG, we have a renewed emphasis in wellness, and these maps will make it easier for members of our university community and our

island community meet their wellness goals," said Doug Palmer, Athletic director.

All maps were designed by CNAS's graphic artist, Emily Shipp. The maps are available for download from the CNAS website: <http://cnas-re.uog.edu/walking-maps/>.

For more information about the walking/running maps, contact Aflague at 735-2026 or email taflague@triton.uog.edu. (UoG)

Bordallo seeks info about possible Agent Orange use on Guam

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) wrote to the U.S. Air Force on Friday to request information on claims that Agent Orange was used to clear vegetation at Andersen Air Force Base.

"I am deeply disturbed with the recent claims that Agent Orange was actively used at Andersen Air Force Base during the 1960s and 1970s. While the DoD has acknowledged that Agent Orange did transit through Andersen Air Force Base, it has consistently denied that the chemical was used for any purpose on island. However, I have heard these claims from constituents and from other service members that have served on island. As such, I have asked for the Air Force to provide me with additional information regarding the handling of Agent Orange on Guam as well as any reports of any use of the chemical on island. It is important that DoD provides very clear information regarding this matter to the public. This recent news claims is troubling, and I will work to ensure that our community is fully informed of the facts on this issue." (PR)

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- Wednesday, January 11th 8:30am - 4:00pm
 - Thursday, January 12th 8:30am - 4:00pm
- at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



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Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Monstrous acts on video

The video depicts a level of cruelty that seems inconceivable. Yet it unfolds before your eyes: A cellphone video, posted for live consumption on Facebook, shows a mentally disabled young man from the Chicago suburbs with his mouth taped shut and his wrists bound as four people punch, cut and mock him.

The story of this incident rapidly went global—yet another act of inhumanity in a city that notoriously ended 2016 with 762 homicides.

Walk through this slowly:

Chicago police say the disabled man met with an acquaintance at a suburban McDonald's on New Year's Eve before being held against his will days later on Chicago's West Side. His parents had reported him missing when he didn't return home.

The video broadcast live Tuesday on Facebook shows him tied up in a corner as his captors cut his shirt and slice his scalp. Police say he also was forced to drink toilet water.

Police and prosecutors charged four suspects with aggravated kidnapping, hate crime, aggravated unlawful restraint and aggravated battery with a deadly weapon. Three defendants also are charged with residential burglary and one with robbery and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

As cruel as the behavior depicted on the video is, equally ghastly is the sound track—punctuated by laughter. The woman shooting the video belly laughs as one of the offenders slices a chunk of hair from the young man's scalp, bloodying him.

"Let me see ... oooh," she cackles, getting a closer shot of the victim's head.

The trappings of a party surround the scene. Police say it appeared at least one of the suspects was smoking marijuana. Bottles of booze are captured on the tape.

The behavior is nothing short of monstrous.

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson called the acts on the video "reprehensible" and racist. At one point, the offenders lash out against "white people" and Donald Trump. All the while, the victim sits in a corner, defenseless.

He was able to get away when his captors confronted a downstairs neighbor and the neighbor called police. On Tuesday evening, police found him wandering, disoriented, injured and wearing shorts in the cold weather. They called an ambulance. They learned he had been reported "missing and endangered."

We leave questions of guilt or innocence to the courts. But any offenders convicted of these crimes likely will face stiff consequences for their actions, which police initially characterized as "stupid" prank-type behavior. Right. Just a bunch of kids goofing around. Police toughened their narrative by the time charges were filed Thursday, as they should have.

For Chicago, then, another grim moment.

It's become all too routine.

We have the data to prove it.

(c) 2017 Chicago Tribune



Trump would do well to surround himself with smart people

I'm glad Donald Trump reminded everyone he is "like, a smart guy." Because for a person who has never held elected office, he doesn't seem to be boning up much for a job that is like, hard.

Instead, since winning the election, Trump has been seeking input from a cast of characters who would seem to know little about global affairs. Trump has met with rapper Kanye West, romance novel cover model/actor Fabio, and actor Sylvester Stallone, to name a few. The Stallone meeting went so well Trump reportedly offered him a top post at the National Endowment for the Arts.

To be sure, Trump is also busy assembling his administration. (That's a separate cast of characters.) But the meetings with B-list stars resemble a casting call for the next "Celebrity Apprentice." Then again, Omarosa made the leap from "The Apprentice" to the White House.

Trump has also spent time with shady characters, including boxing promoter Don King, who was convicted (and later pardoned) of manslaughter; boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr., who has a history of domestic violence; and former pro football star Ray Lewis, who was charged in a double murder following a fight at a Super Bowl party in 2000. The charges were later dropped and Lewis pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice.

It would seem Trump's time could be better spent preparing for the global challenges that await. Then again Trump has long associated with disreputable characters.

Consider one of the attendees at Trump's \$525-a-ticket New Year's Eve party in the Grand Ballroom of his Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida: Joey "No Socks" Cinque, a felon with ties to the Gambino crime family.

Cinque, who was convicted of possessing nearly \$100,000 worth of stolen artwork in 1989, was shot three times in what authorities described as a mob hit, according to a profile in New York Magazine.

Cinque is chairman of the American Association of Hospitality Sciences, a company best known for giving out hospitality awards. More than a dozen of Trump's golf courses, hotels, casinos, and private clubs have been awarded the association's International Star Diamond Award, according to the Associated Press.

In fact, the association listed Trump as an "ambassador extraordinaire." That beats winning a Dundie. In a 2009 video, Cinque had this to say about Trump: "There's nobody like him." You can say that again.

When the AP asked Trump about Cinque in May, he denied knowing anything about him or his criminal past. "If a guy is going to give you an award, you take it," Trump said. "You don't tend to look up his whole life story."

So, remember kids, when Joey No Socks makes you an offer

By **PAUL DAVIES**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Paul Davies is the deputy editorial page editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may email him at pdavies@phillynews.com.



you can't refuse, take it—and the cannoli.

To be sure, Trump knows a little bit about working with mobsters. He used mob-connected firms on development projects in New York and Atlantic City, according to David Cay Johnston, a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter who published a book this year titled "The Making of Donald Trump."

"Trump's career has benefited from a decades-long and largely successful effort to limit and deflect law enforcement investigations into his dealings with top mobsters, organized crime associates, labor fixers, corrupt union leaders, con artists, and even a one-time drug trafficker whom Trump retained as the head of his personal helicopter service," Johnston wrote in a May story for Politico.

Much has also been written about how Trump's career was greatly influenced by hard-nosed attorney Roy Cohn, who was Sen. Joe McCarthy's henchman during the Red Scare and represented mobsters, including Anthony "Fat Tony" Salerno.

Cohn, who died of AIDS in 1988, was one of the most feared lawyers in the country until he was disbarred. Cohn represented Trump for a number of years and the two frequently socialized together and spoke numerous times a day, according to a New York Times story in June.

"I hear Roy in the things (Trump) says quite clearly," Peter Fraser, who was Cohn's companion the last two years of his life, told the Times. "That bravado, and if you say it aggressively and loudly enough, it's the truth—that's the way Roy used to operate to a degree, and Donald was certainly his apprentice."

Cohn also introduced Trump to Roger Stone, a former adviser to Richard Nixon, known for digging up dirt on opposing candidates. Stone has been a longtime Trump confidant. Stone's website quotes articles that describe him as a "political hit man" and "dirty trickster."

What a supporting cast.

Former Ronald Reagan speechwriter Peggy Noonan wrote: "In a president, character is everything." That brings to mind a Japanese proverb: "When the character of a man is not clear, look at his friends."

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Health: You're the captain!

Binge eating—eating far more than normal in one sitting—is a huge problem on the islands. We eat and eat and eat, drink and drink and drink until everything is finished. We stuff ourselves so much until we can't even move anywhere.

Years of binge eating open up the path to obesity and all the problems that comes with the territory. It moves in stages: high blood pressure, pancreatic dysfunction, Type II diabetes, chronic diabetes, kidney failure, amputation, dialysis and “better known as.” Stunning how people stuff themselves as though it's their last day on earth. And they do it with each trip to the table.

The pancreas sends natural sugar (insulin) into our tummy. This helps in the digestion of food until it passes on to the small intestine. But when your tummy is overloaded with food, it leaves no room for the incoming insulin. It also confuses the pancreas when to release insulin. In the process, too much of it eventually stays in your bloodstream, thus the pile of sugar that raises blood sugar level. It's very unhealthy!

I also love to eat but do so in “moderation.” In other words, when my tummy is 60 percent filled I'd stop right then and there. As a diabetic, I'm giving vital parts in my system some recovery in their functions. With discipline of over 20 years, I never had to worry about my blood sugar level. I've also read extensively about food, exercise, medication, etc.

Friends, a doctor, and nurse would do anything within their power to help you recover from any and all illnesses. I thank

The idea of karma

By **THOMAS M. THORNBURGH**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In Hindu, as I have learned from my friend Subbaiah Murugesan that karma is the idea that whatever you do unto others will return to you somehow, some way. One day, when Subbaiah was a young child, he followed his uncle and father up a mountain near their home in India's east coast. It was a big mountain with a valley between it and the next mountain. As they ascended the mountain, his father began talking to him about karma. At some point on their journey and discussing karma, his father stopped and made a cup with his hands over his mouth and yelled into the valley. A little while later, his voice echoed back. He then looked at Subbaiah and said that this is like karma. He continues that in life and in everything you do or say, you must keep in mind that if you act kindly toward others and help them, that help will ultimately return to you in some form. Of course you do things for others without any expectation of payback. This is how you must live your life. You must treat everyone this way from the poor to the rich, people with disabilities to those of another religion. Our differences do not change the fact that we are all people.

At NMPASI we promote that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of our differences. The idea of karma could be used to educate people about kindness. Basically, this is what I hope for our people with disabilities when they interact with others. Unfortunately, I have learned that throughout human history, people with disabilities have been marginalized and have had to live on the fringes of mainstream society because of simply having a disability which they did not ask for.

Subbaiah's father continued educating his son on karma by explaining that is very important to understand that “smoke” is everything else that gets in the way of treating others with kindness. For example if you are jealous of another, you may not extend kindness toward that person, but that limits the possibility of that individual extending help to you one day.

Subbaiah is a firm believer in karma and has seen how it has played out in his life, time and time again. So he shared this idea of karma with me in hopes that it will help me.

So here is something to think about, as we pursue our individual betterment this year with our New Year's resolutions, we can also take a little time to reflect on the idea of karma and kindness.

For more on disabilities and or dignity & respect please call NMPASI at 235-7273, or 4; TTY & fax at 235-7275; or online at www.nmpasi.org.

Happy 2017, CNMI!

Thomas M. Thornburgh is with the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.

them for their sense of compassion and conviction to see through our recovery. But none of them is equipped with divine powers and could only do so much. In brief, you are the captain of your ship of health. Be active and proactive, maintaining healthy habits and spread good tidings among family members at home.

Fishing around sea rocks

It was a pleasant Sunday morning along the beach on the windward side of the island. Out near the reef are rocks that had been there for generations. A fisherman with fishnet was there “fishing.”

The only creature underneath the rocks is a teeny useless fish known locally as “do'du”. It moves instantly between rocks as soon as it sees any threatening motion outside. No wonder the fisherman was cussing with tons of expletives.

It looks almost stupid circling the rocks, trying to corner a creature that disappears instantly. You end up heading back to shore without any fish. It brings common sense into focus. In other words, why pass other schools of fish along the way over useless Houdini?

But then it seems the rock-circling form of fishing reflects the way the NMI addresses and attempts problem solving in roundabout fashion. It also grants us the chance to boast parking common sense in our back pockets. OMG!

Engaging vision

Issues have been flagged needing due diligence if only to lessen the unforeseen consequences as they hit the ground here.

The obvious lack of educated perception or mature attribution drains any last ounce of hope in mind. But I kept returning hoping someone would catch and run with it. It's a way of keeping tabs on every curtain that is lowered on stage.

Missing the bus ride, you wonder if the guys and gals even understand the concept of time. Is the setback one of pure ignorance or the finely massaged sense of *mañana* that has paralyzed the nimble minds of people supposedly equipped with infinitesimal wisdom?

Said Magoo: “Nah! Da guys and gals have no conception what vision represents and their closest shot is black and white television!” Oh? I must have been preaching to the choir.

Mundane matters

How do we discourage politicians from misspending our hard-earned tax contributions? Easy! Move the election from Novem-

This year is a WRAP

By **GREG BORJA**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

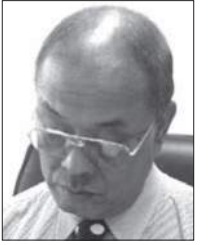
The start of a new year brings a time in which we look to creating resolutions on how to better ourselves physically, but at times we neglect our mental and emotional state. In addition to starting a membership at one of the local gyms, we may need to seek services related to our behavioral health. Behavioral health includes not only ways of promoting wellbeing by preventing or intervening in mental illness such as depression or anxiety, but also has as an aim to prevent or intervene in substance abuse or other addictions. Behavioral health looks not only at prevention and treatment of our mental health and/or substance abuse addictions; it also provides us with the supports we need in the recovery for our conditions.

The Wellness Recovery Action Plan—or WRAP—is a self-designed prevention and wellness process that anyone can use to get well, stay well, and make his or her life the way they want it to be. It was developed in 1997 by a group of people who were searching for ways to overcome their own mental health issues and move on to fulfilling their life dreams and goals. It is now used extensively by people in all kinds of circumstances and by health care and mental health systems all over the world to address all kinds of physical, mental health and life issues.

Consumer Oriented Services, or Peer Support as it may be known, are run by people who have personal experience living with a psychiatric diagnosis and/or a substance abuse disorder. They understand how it can affect every aspect of living, including one's hopes for the future. Consumer-operated leaders and members are living proof that people can and do recover. Consumer-operated services have a different approach to “helping” than traditional mental

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

ber to April, the latter when we pay our taxes together with the apathetic bunch. We could watch them cringe exiting Revenue and Taxation in Dandan.

■ ■ ■

What about politicians who have no sense of morality or propriety (no scruple) in their actions? Take them on a tour of the DOC in Susupe. Better yet, leave them in cells for at least a whole day. It's a good introduction to reading the writing on the wall, including, “If you screw up your room is waiting right here!”

■ ■ ■

Empowering employees is a wonderful thing to do. You give them additional income to deal with the constantly increasing costs of basic commodities.

The unintended consequence though is found among small businesses that are hardly making ends meet. It instantly means cutting down cost on every corner. More often than not, it means cutting jobs for employees in order to survive increases in wages and salaries for their employees.

Thus, the increase is good for those who are retained. It's hell for those who are dismissed in the process. Moreover, the increase benefits public sector employees that are met instantly by an increase in utilities.

No increase for private sector employees that must still deal with the new spike in monthly utility bills, right?

■ ■ ■

A grandson asked why does he has to learn writing in his native tongue? “I already know how to speak it,” he related. But the use of the language is permanently embedded in our children when they can write it in their native tongue! It turns into a tool they could teach their own children too.

health services. They emphasize growth and wellbeing, self-help, and personal choice and responsibility. Members discover that helping others is often a way of helping oneself.

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc., in collaboration with the Council on Developmental Disabilities and PEERLINK National Technical Assistance Center, will be hosting a Wellness Recovery Action Plan seminar and a Peer Support Worker training from Jan. 31 to Feb. 10, 2017. The WRAP seminar will be held from Jan. 31 to Feb. 3, 2017, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center from 8am to 5pm; and the Peer Support Worker Training will be held Feb. 6 to 10, 2017, from 8am to 5pm; the venue is to be determined. Interested individuals must meet the following criteria in order to participate in the Peer Support Training:

■ Individuals must be age 18 or older with a diagnosis of a mental illness or a substance abuse history and current or prior use of behavioral health services and have a desire to use her or his experiences to help others with their recovery and wellness.

■ Individuals must be willing to publicly identify as a person living with a mental illness or substance abuse history in order to model the reality of recovery and wellness.

■ Individuals must be a high school graduate, have completed a G.E.D., or equivalent.

There is no cost to attend. If you would to request an application to participate in these trainings, please contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4.






The deadline to submit an application for the training events is Jan. 9, 2017, at 5pm.

For more information about Consumer Oriented Services and Peer Support, please visit www.samhsa.gov; for more on WRAP, please visit mentalhealthrecovery.com or contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4.

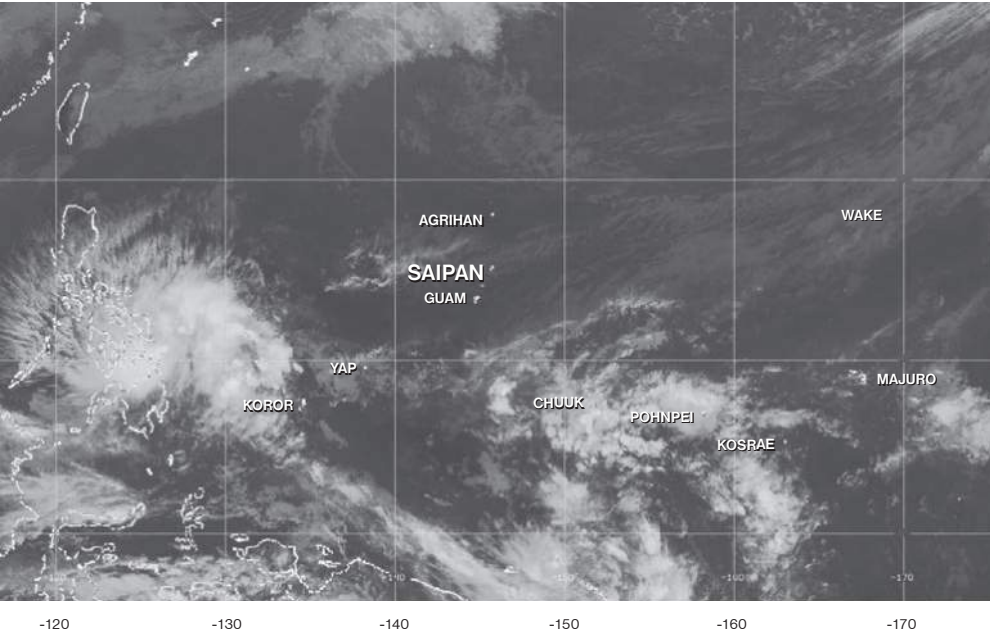
Greg Borja is a projects specialist at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 79°	▲ 87° ▼ 79°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 88° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:01 AM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows the old shear line well south of Guam, and a secondary shear line whose leading edge is over Saipan. In between, Guam and Rota are in a dry slot with dew points in the upper 60s and no showers. Moderate to fresh trades are more easterly today instead of northeasterly. Seas are as high as 8 and a half feet at Ritidian and Tanapag.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▼ ▲		
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	80 / 86 °F
Palau	Heavy rain	79 / 88 °F
Yap	Morning clouds	78 / 85 °F
Chuuk	Heavy rain	79 / 83 °F
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	80 / 84 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	82 / 86 °F
Majuro	Afternoon clouds	81 / 84 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲		
Auckland	Partly cloudy	61 / 69 °F
Beijing	Mostly sunny	23 / 37 °F
Hong Kong	Mostly sunny	60 / 72 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	63 / 79 °F
London	Morning clouds	32 / 43 °F
Los Angeles	Rain	54 / 63 °F
Manila	Afternoon clouds	74 / 89 °F
Melbourne	Morning clouds	61 / 72 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	62 / 69 °F
New York	High level clouds	14 / 26 °F
Osaka	Morning clouds	42 / 52 °F
Paris	Sunny	37 / 44 °F
Pusan	High level clouds	38 / 52 °F
Rome	Partly cloudy	26 / 47 °F
Salem	Cloudy	38 / 43 °F
San Francisco	Light rain	53 / 56 °F
Seoul	Sunny	23 / 39 °F
Tokyo	Heavy rain	40 / 52 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	13 / 29 °F



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PAPA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
5:30 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.64 Feet
10:33 AM	LOW TIDE	1.02 Feet
4:14 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.05 Feet
11:40 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.48 Feet

	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:46 AM	6:03 PM
Tuesday	6:46 AM	6:03 PM
Wednesday	6:46 AM	6:04 PM
Thursday	6:46 AM	6:04 PM
Friday	6:46 AM	6:05 PM

	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:02 AM	2:57 PM
Tuesday	-	4:04 AM	3:54 PM
Wednesday	-	5:06 AM	4:53 PM
Thursday	-	6:07 AM	5:54 PM
Friday	-	7:04 AM	6:55 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 5, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	7, 4	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.			
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
				DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	6:30PM 6:45PM Daily	6:00PM 6:15PM Daily	
				6:30PM 6:45PM Daily			
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				SAIPAN TO ROTA			
DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	7:00AM 7:15AM Daily	7:00AM 7:15AM Daily		DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	7:45AM 8:15AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	4:00PM 4:30PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
7:30AM 7:45AM Daily	8:00AM 8:15AM Daily	9:00AM 9:15AM Daily		7:45AM 8:15AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
8:30AM 8:45AM Daily	10:00AM 10:15AM Daily	11:00AM 11:15AM Daily		4:00PM 4:30PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
9:30AM 9:45AM Daily	12:00AM 12:15NN Daily	1:00PM 1:15PM Daily		ROTA TO SAIPAN			
10:30AM 10:45AM Daily	2:00PM 2:15PM Daily	3:00PM 3:15PM Daily		DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY	8:30AM 9:00AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	4:45PM 5:15PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
11:30AM 11:45AM Daily	4:00PM 4:15PM Daily	5:00PM 5:15PM Daily		7:45AM 8:15AM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
12:30NN 12:45NN Daily				4:00PM 4:30PM Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
1:30PM 1:45PM Daily							
2:30PM 2:45PM Daily							
3:30PM 3:45PM Daily							
4:30PM 4:45PM Daily							
5:30PM 5:45PM Daily							

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

San Nicolas hears public on Tinian's proposed loan

Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas led a public information hearing at the Tinian Public Library on Jan. 4, 2017, on Tinian's proposed application for a loan with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The low-interest loan, called a USDA Rural Development Community Facilities direct loan, will be used to fund the design and construction of secondary roads at Marpo Heights II and fund the design and construction of a new mayor's office.

The Mayor's Office believes these two Tinian projects will prove beneficial for the island's people.

"Residents of Tinian that reside in the Marpo Heights II area have had to endure a significant amount of challenges with the gravel road they use daily. The challenges become even greater during the rainy season and inclement weather. We hope to finally resolve this issue through this option. With the construction of a new Mayor's Office at the old Japanese building located next to the San Jose Church, progress toward centralizing local government agencies will come closer to realization. In addition, the construction of the new mayor's office at the proposed location will



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, councilor-elect Antonio SN. Borja, Tinian Mayor's Office CEO Allen Perez, Ignacio Kiyoshi, Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz, Labor Department resident head Jay Jess San Nicolas, councilor Dianne H. Borja, Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas, Epi Cabrera of the CNMI Grants Management Office, Mary Ann B. Arriola of the CNMI Grants Management Office, councilor Edwin M. Hofschneider, Fire and Emergency Services Department resident head Mathew C. Masga, William Villagomez of the CNMI Grants Management Office, Lands and Natural Resources Department resident head Guillermo Borja, and Frankie Angel of the CNMI Grants Management Office.

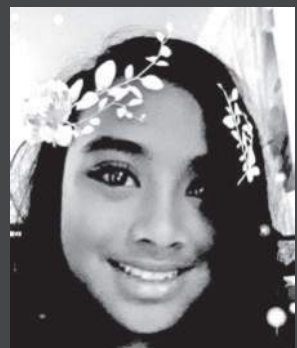
mean a huge savings in rental fees as compared to the present situation," according to a Tinian Mayor's Office statement.

The statement adds: "Although our local casino revenues have taken a huge hit in 2016 and has presented Tinian with even greater challenges financially, [San Nicolas], with the support of the Tinian leadership, has taken the approach of looking for innovative solutions in moving Tinian forward."

"We will continue to work together toward creating progress and improving the livelihood of the people of Tinian. These infrastructure projects are only a part of the overall

work that I pledge to work with our leadership to make a reality," said San Nicolas. **(PR)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our Lurissa Leinoni Aldan Cepeda! Enjoy your special day!

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 17-01

United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands

Docket Clerk / Relief Courtroom Deputy
with additive duties in Procurement or Finance

Permanent, Full-Time Position Location: SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI)
Grade: CL-24 Step 2 \$35,840 to CL-25 Step 2, \$39,579 starting pay depending on qualifications, plus 13.7% COLA (salary and COLA stated at 2016 rates).
Promotion potential to CL-27.

Opening Date: Jan. 6, 2017 • CLOSING DATE: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 12:00 noon

Position Overview:

Docket case information and managing the progression of cases to final disposition, in accordance with approved internal controls, procedures, and rules. Provide customer service to the bar and public, including records retrieval and processing payments. Perform electronic court recording, calendaring, attending and logging court proceedings, and processing orders. Assist with video conferencing, audio conferencing and electronic evidence presentation systems. Depending on applicant background and court needs, may be assigned additional duties as Procurement Assistant or Financial Assistant. Complete position description is available upon request, or via Internet at <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov>. This position includes full federal employment benefits, with paid leave and holidays, health insurance, life insurance and federal retirement benefits.

Minimum Qualifications and Preferred Qualifications:

High School Graduate with two years of general work experience, plus one or more years of specialized experience in a court, law office or regulatory occupation, and significant additional training or experience in procurement, accounting, budgeting or finance. Additional preference will be given for college graduation and work experience in a court or legal environment. Applicants should demonstrate sound ethics and judgment, be able to communicate effectively (orally and in writing), and have skill in typing, use of word processors and spreadsheets, and using automated systems. Additional preference will be given for skill in using automated case management systems.

Citizenship Requirement:

Applicants are required to be U.S. citizens or aliens who are authorized to work in the U.S.

Notice to Applicants:

Excepted service appointments are "at will" and may be terminated by either the court or the employee at any time for any reason. Selectees are subject to a background investigation and suitability determination, and updated background investigations every five years. Employees are subject to the Judicial Code of Conduct. Direct deposit of pay is required.

Application Procedure:

Each applicant is required to submit a Cover Letter, Resume, and an AO-78 application form. AO-78 forms are on the Internet at: <http://www.nmid.uscourts.gov> or may be picked up at the U.S. District Court. Deadline for receipt of applications at the Clerk of Court office in Saipan is Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 12:00 noon.

Deliver signed applications to:

Clerk of Court
United States District Court
for the Northern Mariana Islands
2nd Floor, Horiguchi Building, Garapan, Saipan

Or, email signed applications to:

HR@nmid.uscourts.gov

The United States District Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2017

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an estimated \$1,247,600.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of \$886,361.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$293,829.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, \$67,410.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2017.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of person. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

Applications for the use of CPD funds are available for pick up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) located in Garapan, Saipan; San Jose Village, Tinian; and, Songsong Village, Rota, beginning December 29, 2016. You may also obtain the application online at www.nmhc.gov.net in the section titled "Public Notice/Announcement" subsection "Community Planning Development"

Applications must be submitted to the NMHC Offices in Garapan, Saipan (Saipan Residents); San Jose, Tinian (Tinian Residents); and, Songsong Village, Rota (Rota Residents) by **March 31, 2017, no later than 4:30 p.m. Applications submitted after March 31, 2017, will not be accepted.**

A briefing will be conducted for interested applicants and for those applicants who have picked up an application for the use of CPD funds. The briefing will address the program requirements and regulations concerning the usage of CPD funds.

The schedules for briefing are as follows:

January 16, 2017, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Saipan
January 17, 2017, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Rota
January 19, 2017, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Tinian

We are encouraging all non-profit, for profit, and government service providers who are providing services to people with disabilities, homeless individuals, and emergency shelter administrators and operators to attend this briefing.

For residents living on the island of Saipan, the briefing will held at the NMHC Office in Garapan; Residents living on the island of Tinian, the briefing will be held at the NMHC Office in San Jose Village; and Residents living on the island of Rota, the briefing will be held at the Rota Mayor's Office Conference Room in Tatachog.

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the briefing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the meeting so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD program, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Matnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planning Assistant at 234-6866 or 234-7689.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Business

Mexicans march against gas price hike, little looting

MEXICO CITY (AP)—A protest against Mexico's 20-percent gasoline price hike turned violent Saturday after a lone protester drove his truck into a line of police guarding a fuel distribution terminal in Baja California.

Federal police said seven officers were injured in the incident in Rosarito, near the border city of Tijuana.

Video showed the small pickup driving straight into the line of riot police, then backing up and speeding off.

Largely peaceful protests against the fuel price increases continued elsewhere in Mexico Saturday, and looting seen earlier in the week largely subsided. But nervousness remained.

Officials in Veracruz, one of the states hardest-hit by the looting on Wednesday and Thursday, said some neighborhood groups had begun to form patrols of residents armed with staves or machetes to ward off looters.

Veracruz Gov. Miguel Angel Yunes Linares said 532 people had been detained in his state



AP
Masked men stand guard in front of a gas station in Veracruz, Mexico, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017.

impression that there were armed groups of criminals.”

Yunes Linares said the government was trying to convince residents to stop such patrolling.

The Interior Department reported a total of more than 1,500 people have been detained for looting or disturbances nationwide since protests began early in the week.

It is unclear how many have been charged. Hundreds of stores were looted, mainly on Wednesday and Thursday. Police protection of stores has been stepped up since.

The federal police reported continued protests, and some highway blockages, on Saturday.

Thousands of people marched down main avenues in the western city of Guadalajara Saturday to protest the increases, which are part of a government effort to deregulate fuel prices.

Despite persistent rumors that political interests might have egged on the looters to smear the gas-hike protesters, Yunes Linares said there was “no evidence that political parties were involved.” He said authorities were investigating whether criminal gangs had taken part.

8 ways the US job market has evolved over Obama's 8 years

WASHINGTON (AP)—When President Barack Obama took office in January 2009 in the midst of the Great Recession, the economy was hemorrhaging jobs. Employers were panicking in the face of plummeting demand and a financial crisis that had frozen credit.

In March 2009 alone, 823,000 jobs disappeared. When the bleeding finally stopped in February 2010, **8.7 million** jobs were gone. The unemployment rate hit a painful **10 percent**—a quarter-century high—in October 2009.

Eight years later, the job market is in infinitely better shape. The unemployment rate is **4.7 percent**. Jobs have been added for **75** straight months, the longest such streak on record.

But many other trends, not all of them positive, have reshaped the job market over the past eight years:

A SMALLER SHARE OF AMERICANS HAVE JOBS

Hiring has been solid yet still hasn't kept up with population growth. The proportion of Americans with jobs - essentially the flip side of the unemployment rate—dropped a full percentage point under

Obama. An aging society has turbocharged retirements. And many workers, especially less-educated men, have become discouraged about finding jobs with decent pay and have stopped looking.

AUTOMATION AND GLOBALIZATION ERASE ROUTINE JOBS

Routine work on factory assembly lines and as office clerks has declined, in some cases lost to computers, robots and inexpensive imported goods. Factory jobs have fallen **2.4 percent** since January 2009. The number of people working as office administrators is down 2.5 percent.

MORE HIGH- AND LOW-PAYING JOBS

Those routine jobs typically paid middle-income wages. As they have faded, both higher- and lower-paying jobs have grown faster. The number of jobs in computer networking and software development has soared 42 percent in eight years. Data analysis has enjoyed job growth of **18 percent**. On the lower-paying end, jobs at restaurants and hotels have jumped 19 percent.

MOST NEW JOBS GO TO COLLEGE GRADUATES

The ranks of employed college graduates jumped **22 percent** under Obama, while the number of employed people with only a high school degree fell 4 percent. That partly reflects demographic trends: Older, less-educated Americans retire and are replaced by younger people more likely to have college degrees. But it also points to rising demand for high-skilled workers.

SLOW PAY GROWTH

Over the past year, average hourly pay has risen **2.9 percent**, the healthiest increase in seven years. Yet for most of the recovery since the Great Recession, wages have struggled, growing closer to 2 percent. In a more robust economy, pay gains are typically close to 3.5 percent a year.

MORE PART-TIMERS

Thanks in part to strong hiring gains at restaurants, bars, hotels and retailers, more Americans have part-time jobs. In many cases, they prefer it that way. The number of part-timers

who would prefer full-time work has fallen nearly 30 percent under Obama. And the number of people working part-time by choice—a much larger number—has grown **13 percent** in the past eight years.

MORE ARE WORKING TEMP AND 'GIG' JOBS

Businesses, under pressure to grow profits and counter cheaper competition overseas, have sought to hold down labor costs. Temporary hiring has been one way to do that. Temp jobs skyrocketed **52 percent** during Obama's administration, to nearly 3 million, including at auto plants and hospitals.

YOUNG WORKERS COME IN AS ELDERLY RETIRE

The influx of the millennial generation, the largest in the U.S., is changing the face of the working world. They are replacing retiring baby boomers, usually at lower pay, which has held down overall wages throughout the recovery. Millennials have also spurred more companies to adopt tech-style workplaces, with open floor plans, bean-bag chairs, and free food.

alone and that social rumors of further looting - apparently unfounded - had caused “an artificial psychosis.”

He said that in the northern part of the state, given this psychosis, “the neighbors decided to arm themselves with staves, machetes, creating the

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Volkswagen recalls 136,000 autos for antilock brake fix

Volkswagen Group of America is recalling nearly 136,000 Audi and Volkswagen autos to fix potential problems with their antilock brake systems. The recall covers 135,683 vehicles, including certain 2009-10 Volkswagen Jetta A5 sedans, 2009 Volkswagen Jetta SportWagen, Eos, GTI, Rabbit and Audi A3 vehicles and 2010 Volkswagen Golf A6 vehicles. In them, the control unit for the antilock brake system may fail when the system or the auto's electronic stability control are activated. Volkswagen will notify owners, and repairs will be made free of charge. The automaker traced the problem to the use of an incorrect solder compound, which may cause cracks that prevent sufficient electrical power to flow. (AP)

Fiat Chrysler recalls 100K vehicles to fix Takata air bags

DETROIT (AP)—Fiat Chrysler is recalling more than 100,000 older trucks

and SUVs worldwide to replace potentially dangerous Takata air bag inflators. The recall includes mainly passenger but some driver air bags in certain 2009 Chrysler Aspen and Dodge Durango SUVs, some 2010 Ram 3500 chassis cabs, and certain 2005-2009 Ram 2500 pickups. Takata uses the chemical ammonium nitrate to cause a small explosion designed to inflate the air bags in a crash. But Takata inflators can explode with too much force when exposed to prolonged heat and humidity and hurl shrapnel into vehicles. As many as 16 people have been killed worldwide and about 180 have been injured. Fiat Chrysler says it knows of no injuries involving this group of recalled vehicles. Dealers will replace the inflators with parts made by another company. Fiat Chrysler says the driver-side replacement air bags are now available, but the passenger-side air bags won't be available until spring. Owners will get letters starting Jan. 12.

Nation

Airport gunman charged, US seeks death penalty

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—The Iraq war veteran accused of killing five travelers and wounding six others at a busy international airport in Florida was charged Saturday and could face the death penalty if convicted.

Esteban Santiago, 26, told investigators that he planned the attack, buying a one-way ticket to the Fort Lauderdale airport, a federal complaint said. Authorities don't know why he chose his target and have not ruled out terrorism.

Santiago was charged with an act of violence at an international airport resulting in death—which carries a maximum punishment of execution—and weapons charges.

"Today's charges represent the gravity of the situation and reflect the commitment of federal, state and local law enforcement personnel to continually protect the community and prosecute those who target our residents and visitors," U.S. Attorney Wifredo Ferrer said.

Authorities said during a news conference that they had interviewed roughly 175 people, including a lengthy interrogation with the cooperative suspect, a former National Guard soldier from Alaska.

5 killed, several wounded in shooting at Ft. Lauderdale airport



Source: AP Graphic: Staff, TNS

Flights had resumed at the Fort Lauderdale airport after the bloodshed, though the terminal where the shooting happened remained closed.

Santiago spoke to investigators for several hours after he opened fire with a Walther 9mm semi-automatic handgun that he appears to have legally checked on a flight from Alaska. He had two magazines with him and emptied both of them, firing about 15 rounds, before he was arrested, the complaint said.

"We have not identified



A shooting victim is unloaded from an emergency vehicle and taken into Broward Health Trauma Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Friday, Jan. 6, 2017.

any triggers that would have caused this attack. We're pursuing all angles on what prompted him to carry out this horrific attack," FBI Agent George Piro said.

Investigators are combing through social media and other information to determine Santiago's motive, and it's too early to say whether terrorism played a role, Piro said.

In November, Santiago had walked into an FBI field office in Alaska saying the U.S. government was controlling his mind and forcing him to watch Islamic State group vid-

eos, authorities said.

"He was a walk-in complaint. This is something that happens at FBI offices around the country every day," FBI agent Marlin Ritzman said.

On that day, Santiago had a loaded magazine on him, but had left a gun in his vehicle, along with his newborn child, authorities said. Officers seized the weapon and local officers took him to get a mental health evaluation. His girlfriend picked up the child.

On Dec. 8, the gun was returned to Santiago. Authorities wouldn't say if it was the same gun used in the airport attack.

Public areas of airports seen as most vulnerable to attack

ATLANTA (AP)—In a post-9/11 world, American airports have taken all sorts of steps to keep travelers safe. But significant vulnerabilities remain.

The attack that killed five people Friday at the Fort Lauderdale airport raised concerns about how to further protect travelers and what place firearms have in U.S. airports.

Authorities say Iraq war veteran Esteban Santiago flew in from Alaska, retrieved a handgun from his checked luggage, went to a bathroom to load it and then returned to the baggage claim area to open fire.

"There's no question we need to review not only the question of whether people

should be able to travel with their firearms even if they're in checked baggage, but I think we need to take a hard look at the security around baggage claim areas, and not just leave it at that," said U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, whose district includes the airport.

Transportation security and law enforcement experts say the baggage claim area remains one of the most vulnerable parts of the airport. Security is lighter and large numbers of people move in and out quickly.

"What went wrong yesterday ... is that baggage claim is the softest of soft targets. I mean an elementary school is harder to get into than a

baggage claim at an airport," said Chris Grollnek, a former law enforcement officer who specializes in security issues, especially involving active shooter situations.

Indeed, he notes, it's more difficult to get out of the baggage claim area where at least a minimal security presence screens people leaving to make sure they haven't taken someone else's luggage than it is to enter the area.

After virtually every terror attack or attempted attack, authorities have issued new restrictions: requiring passengers to remove their shoes to expose any explosive material and limiting the amount of liquid in carry-on bags. But experts say the

public areas of an airport remain vulnerable, because the focus of security is devoted to screening passengers to keep their flights safe.

Just in the past year suicide bombers targeted ticket and terminal areas in Brussels and Istanbul, Turkey.

The only way to prevent such attacks, Grollnek and other experts said, is to ensure the wrong people don't get guns and to encourage the general public to alert authorities if they believe a friend or family member is acting erratically. He likened it to farmers who were enlisted in the Civil Air Patrol to spot potential illegal activity while they were in the air in crop dusters.

Manson is back in prison

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)—Cult leader Charles Manson is back in a Central California prison after a reported hospital stay for an unspecified medical problem.

Manson, 82, was at California State Prison, Corcoran as of Saturday, said Jeffrey Callison, a spokesman for the state Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

"We never stated he was anywhere else," Callison said in an email. "Medical privacy laws do not allow (the department) to discuss inmates' medical issues, if any."

The department has declined to comment on reports from TMZ.com and the Los Angeles Times that earlier in the week Manson was taken to a hospital in Bakersfield, 60 miles south of the prison.

While the prison has medical facilities, California prisoners generally are sent to outside hospitals if they need "surgical services, emergency care, or diagnostic services of an acute nature," Joyce Hayhoe, a spokeswoman for the federal receiver who controls prison medical care, said Tuesday.

Manson is serving a life sentence for orchestrating the

1969 murders of pregnant actress Sharon Tate and six others in Southern California. Messages like "Pigs" and a misspelled "Healter Skelter" were scrawled in the victims' blood on their walls and doors.

The cult leader had attracted disaffected young people who lived in an old movie ranch on the edge of Los Angeles that Manson turned into a commune. Prosecutors said Manson and his "family" of followers were trying to incite a race war he dubbed "Helter Skelter," taken from the Beatles song.

Manson, followers Susan Atkins, Patricia Krenwinkel, Leslie Van Houten and Charles "Tex" Watson were convicted of murder and sentenced to death.

All were spared execution when a U.S. Supreme Court ruling temporarily banned the death penalty in 1972.

Another Manson Family member, Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, was never charged in the murders but went to prison later for trying to assassinate President Gerald Ford in 1975. Fromme, whose gun didn't fire, was paroled in 2009 after 34 years behind bars.

Trump: Only 'stupid' people, fools oppose better Russia ties

NEW YORK (AP)—President-elect Donald Trump said Saturday that "only 'stupid' people or fools" would dismiss closer ties with Russia, and he seemed unswayed after his classified briefing on an intelligence report that accused Moscow of meddling on his behalf in the election that catapulted him to power.

"Having a good relationship with Russia is a good thing, not a bad thing," Trump said in a series of tweets.

He added, "We have enough problems without yet another one," and said Russians would respect "us far more" under his administration than they do with Barack Obama in the White House.

Trump repeatedly has questioned the assessment by

American intelligence agencies that the Kremlin interfered in the 2016 election, and a classified report presented to him Friday seemed to have little changed his thinking.

The report explicitly tied Russian President Vladimir Putin to election meddling and said that Moscow had a "clear preference" for Republican Trump in his race against Democrat Hillary Clinton.

But Trump tweeted that with the many global issues confronting the United States, it doesn't need testy ties with Russia on the list. "Only 'stupid' people, or fools, would think that it is bad" to have a good relationship, he said, and suggested his approach might allow the adversaries to work together to solve "some of the many great

and pressing problems and issues of the WORLD!"

Even as intelligences officials looked back in their reports on the election, they also made a troublesome prediction: Russia isn't done intruding in U.S. politics and policymaking.

Immediately after the Nov. 8 election, Russia began a "spearphishing" campaign to try to trick people into revealing their email passwords, targeting U.S. government employees and think tanks that specialize in national security, defense and foreign policy, the report said.

The report was the most detailed public account to date of Russian efforts to hack the email accounts of the Democratic National Committee and individual Democrats,

among them Clinton's campaign chairman, John Podesta.

The unclassified version said Russian government provided emails to the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks even though the website's founder, Julian Assange, has denied that it got the emails it released from the Russian government. The report noted that the emails could have been passed through middlemen.

Russia also used state-funded propaganda and paid "trolls" to make nasty comments on social media services, the report said. Moreover, intelligence officials believe that Moscow will apply lessons learned from its activities in the election to put its thumbprint on future elections in the United States and allied nations.

Asia

PH's Duterte tours Russian warship amid warming ties

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte toured one of the two Russian warships docked in Manila on Friday in another gesture of warming ties with Moscow as he shifts his country's foreign policy away from long-time ally, the United States.

Rear Adm. Eduard Mikhailov, deputy commander of Russia's Pacific Fleet, and Russian Ambassador Igor Khovaev and escorted Duterte and several cabinet members around the anti-submarine ship Admiral Tributs.

At one point during the hourlong visit, Duterte looked out from the ship's deck and pumped his fist in the air.

He was also shown equipment and weapons on board the ship and peered from binoculars from a chair. He took a group picture with the Russians also posing in his trademark pose—with arm stretched out at chest-level and fists closed.

After signing a guest book, he said "Friends, long live!" He added: "That's from the

Just another Sunday? North Korea low key on Kim's birthday

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—North Korea marked Kim Jong Un's birthday on Sunday in a decidedly low-key manner.

Though the young leader's birthday is well-known throughout the country, it has yet to be celebrated with the kind of adulatory festivities that accompany the birthdays of his late grandfather and father. Pyongyang residents did what they do every second Sunday of the new year—joined in sports events.

Kim Jong Un, who is believed to be 33 or 34 and the world's youngest head of state, assumed power after the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011.

With the official period of

21 injured in clashes in Sri Lanka over China port deal

AMBALANTOTA, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka police used tear gas and water cannons Saturday to break up violent clashes between government supporters and villagers marching against what they say is a plan to take over private land for an industrial zone in which China will have a major stake. At least 21 people were injured.

The clashes took place as Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was attending an opening ceremony for the industrial zone, located near the port city of Hambantota, about 240 kilometers (150 miles) southeast of the capi-



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, third left, talks to Russia's Rear Adm. Eduard Mikhailov, fourth right, at the anti-submarine navy ship Admiral Tributs at the south pier in Manila, Philippines Friday, Jan. 6, 2017.

heart; I hope you can come back more often."

Russia is eyeing naval exercises with the Philippines and deployed the Admiral Tributs and sea tanker Boris Butoma on a five-day good-

will visit to Manila.

Filipinos were allowed to tour the huge ships and Russian marines demonstrated their combat capabilities. Tobacco and beer magnate Lucio Tan, the 4th richest Filipino

according to Forbes magazine, was among civilians who toured the ship.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, who accompanied Duterte on the ship tour, expressed optimism about "the

in his annual New Year's address, when he closed with remarks about his desire to be a better leader.

Even so, 2017 could turn out to be a bigger than normal year in North Korea for Kim-related events.

State media have suggested Kim Jong Il's birthday in February and especially Kim Il Sung's birthday in April will be celebrated in a more lavish than usual manner, though exactly what's in store is not known. And Kim Jong Un has already had something of a big New Year's event—days after his address, tens of thousands of North Koreans rallied in Pyongyang in the customary show of support for their leader.

May party congress, but they proved to be unfounded. Calendars for this year don't denote Jan. 8 as anything other than a normal Sunday, and there was no mention of the birthday in Rodong Sinmun, the ruling party newspaper.

The only time Kim has been honored in public on his birthday was in 2014, when former NBA star Dennis Rodman sang "Happy Birthday" to him before an exhibition basketball game in Pyongyang.

North Korean officials say the low-key approach—and the very little information made public about his wife and family—reflects Kim's "humble" nature and respect for his forbearers. Kim seemed to amplify that image

Sri Lanka's government has signed a framework agreement for a 99-year lease of the Hambantota port with a company in which China will have 80 percent ownership. Officials also plan to set up a nearby industrial zone where Chinese companies will be invited to set up factories. The villagers and monks are opposed to it and demand their residential and farmlands be spared.

A court had issued a restraining order on the protest, saying it could lead to unrest, but the protesters defied it.

Wickremesinghe inaugurated the industrial zone despite

start of a partnership" between the two countries' defense establishments when he met with Russian navy officials Thursday night.

"May our common aspirations for regional and global peace and security enable us to become good partners, co-operating and coordinating towards tranquil and safe seas for all," Lorenzana said on board the Admiral Tributs.

He said during his trip to Russia in early December, he agreed with Russian defense officials to finalize a memorandum of understanding that will be the basis of future military engagements, including joint military exercises, so it can be signed during Duterte's planned trip to Russia in April.

The visit by the Russian navy ships is the third to the Philippines and the first under

Duterte, who took office in June. Duterte has lashed out at outgoing President Barack Obama and his administration for criticizing Duterte's deadly crackdown on illegal drugs which is feared to have left more than 6,000 suspected drug users and dealers dead.

Contrastingly, he has reached out to China and Russia—whose leaders he has met recently—in a dramatic shift in Philippine foreign policy that has put Washington in a dilemma.

The Philippines has depended heavily on the U.S., its treaty ally, for weapons, ships and aircraft for years, although it has turned to other countries for defense equipment.

After visiting Moscow last month, Lorenzana said the Philippine military was considering purchasing sniper rifles from Russia.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taiwan leader in Houston, en route to Central America

HOUSTON (AP)—Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen has arrived in Houston for a brief transit stop in the U.S. during her trip to Central America. Dozens of supporters stood outside in near freezing temperatures as Tsai arrived at a Houston hotel Saturday morning. She shook some hands and posed for selfie photos. She did not address media kept some distance away. An official with President-elect Donald Trump's transition team said earlier Saturday neither Trump nor transition officials would be meeting with her. Tsai is passing through Houston on a trip she says is intended to bolster Taiwan's international profile by reinforcing ties with diplomatic allies in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. China has been angered by her refusal to endorse Beijing's concept that Taiwan and the mainland are a single Chinese nation.

53 of 158 inmates accounted for after Philippine jailbreak

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—More than 50 of the 158 inmates who escaped in the biggest jailbreak ever in the Philippines have been caught or killed, officials said Friday, with a manhunt underway for the others. Of the prisoners who escaped after suspected heavily armed Muslim rebels stormed a jail in the country's south, 43 have been recaptured and eight were killed. Two others are being

treated in hospital for injuries, said Maria Joyce Birrey, the Cotabato provincial police spokeswoman. As well, a jail guard died in the attack on the jail and a village official who allegedly drew a gun when encountered by police was killed. The breakout from the jail in Kidapawan took place before dawn Wednesday when more than 100 gunmen attacked the facility. Kidapawan city is about 930 kilometers (580 miles) southeast of the capital, Manila, in a restive region when Muslim rebels have been active for generations.

Pakistan makes case for Indian terrorism to UN

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's foreign ministry says Islamabad has handed over a dossier to the United Nations over the alleged involvement of India in acts of terrorism in the Islamic nation. In a statement, it said Pakistani ambassador Maleeha Lodhi on Friday delivered a set of documents regarding India's alleged role in fomenting terrorism in Pakistan to U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. The announcement comes months after Pakistan captured an Indian spy, Kulbhushan Jadhav, saying he was behind acts of terrorism in the country. So far, Islamabad has not granted consular access to Jadhav following India's request. Pakistan and India have a history of bitter relations. In recent months they have repeatedly exchanged fire in Kashmir, the border territory divided between them and claimed by both.

World

US goes from bandleader to bystander in Syria peace efforts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Stung by years of failure to stop Syria's bloodshed, the United States is now just a bystander to the civil war as President Barack Obama's tenure ends.

Secretary of State John Kerry still is speaking sporadically with Russian, Turkish and Arab foreign ministers about cease-fire efforts, and there are occasional consultations with the opposition.

But less than two weeks before Donald Trump's presidency begins, the Obama administration no longer is even claiming to play the leading part in the peace mediation that it spearheaded unsuccessfully for years. Formal contacts with Russia and others in Geneva, the main meeting point for the U.S.-led diplomacy, have ended.

Leadership has been ceded to Russia and, to a lesser degree, Turkey and Iran.

After helping Syria's military oust the remaining rebels

from the city of Aleppo last month, Moscow has cast itself as the would-be peacemaker. It clinched a new truce without Washington's help and announced Friday that it was starting to draw down its forces in the region.

Russian envoys also are organizing the first talks between the Syrian government and opposition in nearly a year. The discussions are set for later in January in Astana, Kazakhstan.

"We still are at the proverbial table," State Department spokesman John Kirby said Friday. "We may not be at the table in Astana, we may not be at the table in Moscow, I understand that. But it's not like we are walking away from Syria."

He added later: "We aren't connected to this piece of it. It's not like we're pulling out from the whole puzzle."

With no indication about how the incoming Trump administration intends to pro-



In this Jan. 5, 2017, photo, Secretary of State John Kerry speaks during a news conference at the State Department in Washington. AP

ceed on Syria, U.S. diplomats are wary of engaging in any new initiatives that would require a sustained American role. As a result, the Obama administration is ambivalent about attending, even in an observer role, the proposed peace meeting. Turkey has told the U.S. its presence would be acceptable, American officials said, but Washington has yet to make a decision.

The diminution of the American role could have

drawbacks.

Obama demanded almost six years ago that Syrian President Bashar Assad leave power and allow for a democratic transition. But Obama's reticence to plunge the United States into another Mideast war meant the U.S. never had the capability to shape such an outcome. Its increasingly marginal role in recent months means it could have even less capacity to help shape Syria's future

and safeguard vital American interests, such as Israel's security and fighting the Islamic State group.

On the other hand, Obama hands the baton to Trump without any large-scale military or diplomatic engagement in Syria. Obama never wanted to own the conflict, which has killed up to a half-million people and prompted millions to flee as refugees. On Saturday, at least 43 people were killed when a car bomb ripped

Turkish PM visits Iraq amid spat over unauthorized troops

BAGHDAD (AP)—Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim commenced a two-day visit to Iraq Saturday, the first since the two governments quarreled over the presence of unauthorized Turkish troops in northern Iraq, straining relations between the two neighbors fighting the Islamic State group.

Meanwhile, Iraqi government troops made fresh progress in their push against IS inside the northern city of Mosul, dislodging militants from new areas and for the first time reaching the nearest point to Tigris river that divides the city since the operation began in mid-October.

The presence of some 500 Turkish troops in the Bashiqa region, northeast of the IS-held city of Mosul, has stirred tension with Baghdad since late last year. Iraq has demanded their withdrawal, saying they are there without permission and are in "blatant violation" of Iraqi sovereignty. Turkey says the troops were invited by local Iraqi authorities and has ignored the calls.

Shortly after Yildirim's arrival, the Turkish Ambassador to Baghdad, Faruk Kaymakci, said on his Twitter accounts that "We hope that his visit will open a new chapter in Turkey-Iraq relations."

But emerging from an hours-long meeting in Baghdad's fortified Green Zone

area, both sides seemed still far from resolving that issue.

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said in a joint press conference the Turkish delegation "stressed that this issue will be resolved in a proper way within the (coming) short period."

For his part, Yildirim said the presence of the Turkish troops "wasn't born out of pleasure but rather out of need."

"Iraq's sovereignty is very important for us, we will not allow or be involved in any attempt or move to hurt its sovereignty," Yildirim added.

Both sides also said they had discussed the fight against IS, and the Kurdish Turkish separatist group known as the PKK, which has used Iraqi territory to launch attacks inside Turkey and target water supplies to the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

The issue has led to a war of words between the two nations' leaders as Iraqi government troops launched a massive military operation to recapture Mosul on Oct. 17. Ankara has insisted that its forces should take part in retaking the city, but Baghdad has refused.

The issue of the Turkish forces in Bashiqa grew into a rare and bitter public feud last year between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi.

Blast in Syrian town on Turkish border kills nearly 50

BEIRUT (AP)—A car bomb ripped through a busy commercial district in a rebel-held Syrian town along the Turkish border Saturday, killing nearly 50 in a huge explosion that damaged buildings and left rescuers scrambling to find survivors amid the wreckage, opposition activists said.

Rescuers and doctors said the explosion was so large there were nearly 100 wounded and burned. Over 50 wounded were transported to the Turkish border town of Kilis for treatment, as local hospitals couldn't cope.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Locals said a rigged tanker caused the explosion and blamed Islamic State militants, who have carried out attacks in the town before. The militant group has been increasingly pressed

in Syria and Iraq, and has escalated its attacks against Turkey—which backs Syrian opposition fighters in a campaign against the group in northern Syria.

Azaz, only a couple of miles from the Turkish border, is a key town on a route used by opposition fighters moving between Syria and Turkey, and is a hub for anti-government activists as well as many displaced from the recent fighting in Aleppo city. Activists say its pre-war population of 30,000 has swelled.

It is also sandwiched between rival groups, including Kurdish fighters to the west and Turkey-backed opposition groups to the east. Islamic State militants, who have tried to advance on the key border town before have been pushed back farther east in recent months in the

Turkey-backed offensive.

The bomb went off early Saturday afternoon outside a local courthouse and security headquarters operated by the opposition fighters who control the town, resident and activist Saif Alnajdi told The Associated Press from Azaz.

"It hit the busiest part of the town," Alnajdi said, referring to the administrative part of town.

A medical worker speaking to a local media outfit, al-Jisr, said many charred bodies, and body parts mixed with bones and mud, were piled up in local hospitals.

Rami Abdurrahman, the head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group, said at least 48 people were killed, including 14 fighters and guards to the local courthouse. He said the explosion was caused by

through the center of a busy commercial district of a rebel-held Syrian town along the Turkish border, activists and rescue workers said.

Obama's reticence to intervene in the war at least means Trump will have flexibility, which Obama didn't have in inheriting the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

In a farewell news conference Thursday, Kerry insisted the administration hadn't given up on Syria and that he hoped the warring sides could get to "real negotiations" on a peace agreement.

But some officials were frustrated by the administration essentially withdrawing from the process. For example, Kerry hasn't spoken to Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov since Dec. 27. Their discussions occurred almost daily at some points last year.

Russia, which backs the Syrian government, and Turkey, a strong supporter of Syria's moderate opposition, brokered the current shaky cease-fire, which came into effect on Dec. 30. The truce has mostly held but not altogether halted fighting; the government and opposition have blamed each other for violations.

a rigged water or fuel tanker, which explained the large blast and high death toll. The activist-operated local Azaz Media center and Shabha Press put the death toll at 60, adding that search and rescue operations continued for hours after the explosion.

Alnajdi said rescue workers were still working to identify and remove the bodies from the area, suggesting that the death toll was not final. He said some of the severely wounded were transported across the border into the Turkish town of Kilis for treatment. The Turkish state-run Anadolu news agency said 53 wounded Syrians were brought to Kilis' local hospital for treatment, including five in critical condition, transferred to Gaziantep. The agency said one later died.

Blast kill 3 in Somali restaurant frequented by soldiers

HARGESIA, Somalia (AP)—A bomb explosion at a restaurant in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, killed three people and injured more than 16 others on Saturday, a Somali police officer said.

The bomb is believed to have been concealed in the restaurant often frequented by

government soldiers in Hodan district, Capt. Mohamed Hussein said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing, but suspicion centered on the Islamic extremist group al-Shabab, which has waged an insurgency against Somalia's

weak government.

Al-Shabab, al-Qaida's East African affiliate, is fighting to impose a strict version of Islam in the Horn of Africa nation. Despite losing territory in recent years, the group continues to carry out lethal attacks in many parts of the country, especially Mogadishu.

A surge in attacks could further delay Somalia's presidential election, which has been postponed several times due to security problems and the flawed selection of members of parliament who elect the president.

Al-Shabab opposes the elections.

Focus

Endgame looms in efforts to reunite Cyprus after 43 years



AP
In this Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017 photo, a UN soldier stands by an abandoned building inside the UN buffer zone, Green Line, that divided the Greek, south, and Turkish, north, Cypriots controlled areas in the divided capital Nicosia in the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus.



AP
In this Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017 photo, old Cyprus beer bottles from the 1970s, in a shop inside the UN buffer zone, Green Line, that divided the Greek, south, and Turkish, north, Cypriots controlled areas in the divided capital Nicosia in the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus.

By MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—The division of Cyprus is now in its 43rd year. Next week may mark the decisive moment when the small eastern Mediterranean island nation starts to be stitched back together again.

After 19 months of talks aimed at reunifying the internationally recognized Greek Cypriot south with the break-away Turkish Cypriot north, the final details of a peace deal are set to be thrashed out, potentially bringing some good news to a region wracked by conflict and distrust.

But many hurdles remain—hurdles that have not been cleared in previous reunification attempts.

The Conference on Cyprus is scheduled to start on Jan. 12 in Geneva, and is intended to hammer out some of the toughest aspects of a peace deal—including how to ensure security for both Greek and Turkish Cypriots once an aimed-for federation is established. The leaders of Greece, Turkey and the former colonial power Britain—the so-

called guarantors—are widely anticipated to make an appearance at the summit.

Making sure there's no repeat of the events of 1974 is key. In the summer of that year, Cyprus was split into two after Turkey invaded in the wake of a Greek-backed coup that aimed to unite the island with the rest of Greece. Following the invasion, the country was cleaved along ethnic lines with the Turkish Cypriots controlling 36.5 percent of Cyprus' land mass backed by more than 35,000 Turkish troops deployed in the north. A Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence is recognized only by Turkey.

Before the official opening of the summit, Greek Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades and Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci have earmarked three days from Jan. 9 to clear up a string of outstanding issues—including the pivotal matter of how much territory each side will control in a federation.

Here's a look at where things stand:

MY LAND, YOUR LAND

Talks almost broke down in November because Anastasiades and Akinci couldn't agree on how much territory the Greek and Turkish federal zones would control.

The difference was marginal—just a percentage point. Its impact was immense.

Greek Cypriots say enough territory must be returned under their control in order to allow at least 90,000 Greek Cypriots displaced by the 1974 invasion to reclaim lost homes and property in a relatively short time. The argument is that an agreement on those lines would reduce the financial burden of a peace deal by limiting the compensation amounts that will have to be paid to those not able to reclaim their homes and land. It would also potentially boost Greek Cypriot support for a deal when it's put to a vote—a previous peace deal in 2004 was rejected by Greek Cypriots in a referendum.

Turkish Cypriots, on the other hand, want to limit the numbers that relocate. Telling Turkish Cypriots to leave what they have considered home for decades is unlikely to go down well with many in any subsequent referendum.

Both Anastasiades and Akinci are expected to produce maps showcasing their intentions. Anastasiades said without maps to sort out a final deal, talks won't move to the top issue - security.

GUARANTORS

There's another layer when it comes to Cyprus, an island

that's seen its share of big power intrigue through the centuries, from Alexander the Great's invasion in the fourth century B.C., through Roman times, the Crusaders and most recently the British.

Legally, negotiations that touch on Cyprus' security must include Greece, Turkey and Britain because Cyprus' 1960 constitution accorded them "guarantor" status. The idea was to have the three protect the fledgling democracy at its independence from British rule which had followed four years of a guerrilla campaign by Greek Cypriots aimed at unifying the island with Greece—something the minority Turkish Cypriots deeply opposed.

Turkey invoked its intervention rights from its status as a guarantor in 1974.

SECURITY

Trust is therefore essential.

Turkish Cypriots fear that the majority Greek Cypriots could overwhelm them in the

future. That's why they are insisting that Turkish troops should remain as a bulwark.

Greek Cypriots, meanwhile, have worries over the might of Turkey and insist that a country outside the European Union—of which Cyprus is a member—should neither keep troops on the island nor the right to militarily intervene. EU officials have backed that notion.

Turkey's increasingly authoritarian ways and recent security problems, evidenced further in the New Year's Day attack in Istanbul that killed 39 people, have done little to either assuage Greek Cypriot fears or foster trust. United Nations officials are reportedly trying to work out a formula that would answer the security fears of both sides.

SUMMIT

Word is that Greece, Britain and Turkey will be represented at the Cyprus Conference at the highest levels. Top EU officials including Commission President Jean-Claude

Juncker and Foreign Policy chief Federica Mogherini are said to be going, too. Anastasiades said that U.N. Security Council members may also attend on the sidelines if they so wish.

U.N. envoy Espen Barth Eide has said the talks may expand to include issues that affect EU-Turkey relations, such as what to do with all the refugees who have fled Syria for Europe. Akinci has said that if a deal is struck in Geneva, it may take a few more months to thrash out the legal details before accord is put to a vote in the summer.

STAKES ARE HIGH

A peace deal would bolster regional security and ease cooperation in tapping potentially huge oil and gas reserves beneath the Med seabed.

For the wider region, a deal could be a beacon of hope.

Greeks and Turks, Muslims and Christians working things out could send a powerful message of peace.

Health & Fitness

US now recommends most babies eat peanut products early, often

By ANYA SOSTEK
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Once upon a time, school-children all over the land brought peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to school and lived happily ever after.

With the rate of peanut allergies quadrupling in the last 15 years, those days now seem like just a fairy tale.

Thursday, the federal government reversed course on its previous recommendations regarding when children should start eating peanut products. Rather than avoiding them throughout infancy, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases now recommends that most babies eat peanut products early and often.

"It's a real change for everybody," said Scott Tyson, a pediatrician with Pediatrics South in Mount Lebanon, Pa. "It's a complete flip."

The change came about because of a highly regarded study released in 2015 known as the Learning Early about Peanut Allergy, or LEAP, trial, which found an 81 percent reduction in the development of a peanut allergy by age 5 among high-risk babies that were fed peanut products between 4 and 11 months, versus a control group of children that avoided peanut products.

Prior to that, the conventional wisdom had been to delay the introduction of peanuts, with the American Academy of Pediatrics recommending in 2000 to wait until children turned 3. But a national survey in 2010 esti-

mated that 2 percent of children have a peanut allergy, up from 0.4 percent of children in 1999.

"The question is, because we were avoiding it so much did we produce a population of kids who had peanut allergies?" said Tyson. "We may have really been our own worst enemy."

Infants should never eat whole peanuts because they are a choking hazard, though they can consume them through smooth peanut butter mixed with water or purees, peanut powder or Bamba, an Israeli snack food typically given to infants.

The federal recommendations released Thursday divide babies into three groups, based on risk level.

Children with the greatest risk — those with severe eczema and/or a known egg allergy — should be tested for a reaction to peanuts via skin or blood test. If the reaction demonstrates a low risk of an allergy, the child should be introduced to peanut products between 4 and 6 months old either at home or in a medical setting. If the risk of a reaction is moderate to high, the child should be given the peanut products in a doctor's office or specialty facility. If there is evidence that the infant is already allergic to peanuts, he or she should not receive peanuts.

The second risk group — those with mild to moderate eczema — should start eating peanut products around 6 months old. And the third group — those without eczema or allergies — should

have peanut products "freely introduced in the diet together with other solid foods."

While the advice is a change from the government's previous recommendations, many pediatricians and allergists have been recommending that babies be introduced to foods containing peanuts since the LEAP study was published. Even before that, the American

Academy of Pediatrics and other groups began softening their recommendations to delay allergens.

"Our practice has been recommending this for a while but it's official today," said Sarah Kohl, a pediatrician at Pediatric Alliance in Chartiers/McMurray. "This is a completely opposite recommendation so parents can be confused, but they are

incredibly understanding. What parents want are kids who don't have peanut allergies and if there's a way to reduce it, they're on board."

Allergists at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC have also already incorporated these recommendations into their practice. After the LEAP report, they developed an "infant peanut challenge" protocol in which they feed high-

risk babies small amounts of the Bamba snack and watch for a reaction.

"We've really modified our practice based on that study," said Todd Green, director of the Food Allergy Center at Children's Hospital. "You had this study that was pretty powerful but it didn't really tell people what to do. There are still lots of questions."

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

† *Antonio Villagomez Iginoef*

Fondly called Tony Boy or Indian
September 17, 1956 – January 02, 2017

Was called to join our Creator on Monday, January 02, 2017
at the Commonwealth Healthcare Center

In his New Life he now joins his:

Parents: †Juan Rabauliman Iginoef and †Maria Villagomez Iginoef

Siblings: †Angel Taman, †Dionicia I. Lisua and †Guadalupe I. Fitial

Parents In-Law: †Valerio Mendiola Cabrera

and †Mariana Aldan Cabrera

Siblings In-Law: †Vicente F. Mettao, †Crispin R. Lisua,

†Consolacion C. Iginoef, †Joaquin and †Carmen Aldan Cabrera

His wonderful and loving memories will be forever cherished by:

Wife: Terry Cabrera Iginoef (Bolo)

Children: Jesse James Sr. C. & Shawna Crisostomo Iginoef
Vanessa Junn I. & Thomas Anthony Takai Pangelinan, Sr.
Valerio John Cabrera Iginoef

Grand Children: Jesse James C. Iginoef, Jr.

Shawn Jasen C. Iginoef

Anthony Bill C. Iginoef

Jasell Jasmeen C. Iginoef

Thomas Anthony I. Pangelinan, Jr.

Special and Loving Step Mother: Felicidad Odoshi Iginoef

Siblings and In-Laws:

Antonia L. Taman and Children

Maggie I. Mettao & Pedro R. Lisua and Children

Children of †Crispin R. and †Dionicia I. Lisua

Maria I. & Michael K. Somorang and Children

Joaquin V. Iginoef and Children

Dominic F. Fitial

Luella I. and Herman C. Lieto and Children

Elia O. & Bernard Santos and Children

Romeo O. & Lorna O. Iginoef and Children

Gregory Paul M. Iginoef & Angie L. Teregeyo and Children

Sharma I. & Bruce Laniyo and Children

Lorenza O. Iginoef & Jesus L. Ruben and Children

Eddie A. & Maggie B. Cabrera and Children

Ignacio A. Cabrera and Children

Juan A. Cabrera & Priscilla Kiyoshi and Children

Natividad A. Cabrera & HyTong

Jennifer O. Iginoef & Jack L. Ruben and Children

Carmen O. Iginoef & BJ Tagabuel and Children

Tony Boy will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and Godchildren.

Mass for the His Reposed Soul is being offered at Kristo Rai Church every 6:00 in the morning.

On January 13, 2017, Friday, his body will be escorted from CHCC Morgue to Kristo Rai Church for his funeral services, responso and rosary will follow immediately upon arrival. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30am, followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

*Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Olomwaay
for your thoughts and prayers.*

**Terry Cabrera Iginoef, Children, Grandchildren and Family
Also from Villagomez, Iginoef and Cabrera Families**

New peanut allergy guidelines

New guidelines from the National Institutes of Health mark a shift in dietary advice about peanut allergies in infants. The study found early exposure dramatically lowers a baby's chances of becoming allergic.



Guideline 1

• **High-risk babies:** If your infant has severe eczema, egg allergy, or both. Babies should have peanut-containing foods introduced as early as 4 to 6 months. This is done after a check-up to tell if they should have the first taste in the doctor's office or at home.



Guideline 2

• **Moderate-risk babies:** If your infant has mild to moderate eczema. They should start peanut-based foods around 6 months, at home.



Guideline 3

• **Low-risk babies:** Parents can introduce peanut-based foods, along with other solids, usually around 6 months.

• Building tolerance requires making peanut-based foods part of the regular diet, about three times a week.

Life & Style

SeaWorld San Diego ending killer whale show

SAN DIEGO (AP)—SeaWorld San Diego is ending its long-running killer whale show after years of outcry and falling attendance prompted it to renounce theatrical orca displays.

The show that featured killer whales cavorting with trainers and leaping high out

of the Shamu Stadium pool will have its final performances on Sunday.

This summer, the park will unveil a new attraction in the revamped pool. Orca Encounter is being billed as an educational experience that will show how killer whales eat, communicate and navigate.

The animals will still receive cues from trainers, however.

"You will still see a whale leaping out of the water," Al Garver, a former orca trainer and vice president of zoological operations, told the San Diego Union-Tribune. "We want to be able to demonstrate

behaviors people would see in the wild with the killer whales and their abilities as a top predator in the sea. The vast majority of behaviors people have seen in our shows will be very suitable for demonstrating that."

The park has 11 orcas, ranging in age from 2 to 52 years old.

Under pressure from activists and faced with declining ticket sales, SeaWorld Entertainment Inc. announced last year it was ending its theatrical orca shows and breeding program.

Parks in Orlando and

San Antonio will end their shows by 2019.

SeaWorld has seen attendance fall since the 2013 documentary "Blackfish" criticized conditions of captive orcas, implying that confinement made them more aggressive.

"Blackfish" chronicled the life of Tilikum, an orca that killed a SeaWorld trainer during a performance in Orlando in 2010.

The movie's director has told CBS that the new show was designed to make the audience feel better, not the animals.

"The trainers aren't safe,

and the whales aren't happy," Gabriela Cowperthwaite said. "They're still just doing manic circles around concrete swimming pools."

SeaWorld reported Friday that Tilikum, who was believed to be about 36 years old and in poor health, had died in Orlando.

SeaWorld Entertainment Inc. announced last month that it was eliminating 320 jobs across its 12-park company. The company also announced that it would help develop its first SeaWorld park without orcas, in Abu Dhabi.



AP

In this Nov. 30, 2006, file photo, people watch through glass as a killer whale swims by in a display tank at SeaWorld in San Diego.

Behind the bar, 'the only Oscar at the Golden Globes'

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Win or lose, Hollywood's biggest stars will be looking forward to Oscar once again at Sunday's Golden Globe Awards. But not necessarily THAT Oscar.

As longtime bartender in the show's off-camera green room, Oscar Zuleta has toasted with Sean Connery, gotten a head rub from Tom Hanks and shared a selfie with Jessica Alba. The 48-year-old Beverly Hilton Hotel staffer keeps the drinks flowing at the awards circuit's booziest gathering.

"A lot of people know me for that - 'you are the only Oscar at the Golden Globes,'" Zuleta says. "I know many of the presenters for years now - wonderful people and I get to see them every year and they happen to remember me, luckily."

Zuleta immigrated to Los Angeles from Guatemala as a teenager. He started working for the Hilton in 1986, at first just pouring cups of coffee. Eventually, he landed on the hotel's banquet staff, commuting daily from the working-class Mid-City area to the mecca of affluence that is Beverly Hills. He would dish out meals at business conventions or clean up after the hotel's many charity galas.

His first brush with Globes glamour was in an eighth-floor suite after-party in 1995. Tom Hanks was celebrating his win for "Forrest Gump" and noticed Zuleta's "Oscar" name tag. "He says, 'Come here. Let me rub your head. I need some luck,'" Zuleta recalled, laughing. Hanks went on to win at the Oscars.

One year, Zuleta delivered extra food to a Globes guest mid-show and found himself crawling between tables as the televised ceremony continued—and while



AP

This Jan. 3, 2017 image taken from video shows Beverly Hilton hotel bartender Oscar Zuleta mixing drinks at the hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

an amused Angelina Jolie looked on. Then there's the time he held an extended conversation with Mike Tyson—in Spanish. And Zuleta is ready with a ginger ale as soon as he spots Robert Downey Jr.

"Frankly, it wouldn't be a Golden Globes without Oscar. Everybody looks for him," said Globes executive producer Barry Adelman. "Everybody who is anybody has been served a drink by Oscar."

Meryl Streep, an Affleck brother or two, and dozens of other actors will be packed into Cabana Room 138 on Sunday as they wait their turns onstage in the hotel's International Ballroom. But Zuleta says he won't have time to chat much as he pours out martinis and Champagne. It's the stars' loss; this bartender has stories of his own to tell.

He raised three children alone for years after his first wife, Cecilia, died of a brain aneurysm. He saved enough money from his unionized job to help pay tuition for his two older daughters at East Coast colleges.

After remarrying, his current wife, Zonia, also suffered a brain aneurysm.

She's doing OK, though, and Zuleta took her on vacation last month to visit California's Monterey Bay Aquarium, the place that inspired his favorite movie of 2016, "Finding Dory."

Moments of kindness stand out for Zuleta in the yearly whirlwind of fame and glitz. "Everybody is nice to me, but there are people that show you that you matter," he said.

Jessica Alba posted a selfie with the heavysset bartender on her Instagram feed. One man tipped him an envelope stuffed with \$300. But it was a red wine toast with James Bond actor Connery that's become Zuleta's favorite Globes moment.

"He did a wonderful thing. He told me with his heavy accent that his custom is not to have a drink of wine - only if the person that is serving it to him has it with him. But you know, being a worker, I'm not allowed to do that. But he insisted," Zuleta said.

After getting permission from the banquet manager and Globes host Dick Clark himself, Zuleta took a sip. "And he says, 'Cheers, my son,'" Zuleta recalled. "I'll never forget that."

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

† Amado Gamboa Dayrit

Lovingly known as "Adong"

Was born on September 13, 1946 and called to his eternal rest on January 3, 2017

In his new life, Amado will be reunited with his:

Father: †Simplicio Dayrit
Father-in-law: †Servilliano Zaragosa
Mother-in-law: †Romana Zaragosa
Uncles: †Leonardo Manacop, †Teofisto Gamboa
Brother: †Simplicio Dayrit Jr.

Amado's memories will live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Andrea Z. Dayrit
Mother: Angelina G. Dayrit

Children:

Ceazar Q. Dayrit

Amado Q. Dayrit Jr./Gina Mojar and kids:

Aaron Joseph, Arriane Jireh, Arriane Jashara, Arriane Jeremiah, Arron Jairos, Arriane Jewel, Arriane Jade, Arriane Jeereh, Ayuri, and Yhuan

Joselito Q. Dayrit/Josie and daughter, Ma. Chloe Gaille

Joanne Z. Dayrit

Jeston Z. Dayrit and daughter, Jenarisa Mae

Jenny Anne Z. Dayrit

Siblings:

Mamerto Dayrit and family
 Vergilio Dayrit and family
 Regino Dayrit and family
 Arnaldo Dayrit and family
 Zoilo Dayrit and family
 Telesforo Dayrit and family
 Irene Dayrit

Siblings-in-law:

Gilberto Zaragosa and Family
 Leticia Zaragosa
 Diosdado Zaragosa

Countless nieces, nephews, family and friends

Daily Mass of intentions for the repose of his soul is being offered at San Antonio Parish at 6pm (9am on Sunday, January 8) and prayers of the holy rosary will follow after mass (6:30pm).

His funeral will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2017. His body will be escorted from CHC morgue at 8:30 am to San Antonio Parish.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 am followed by Interment Services at Tanapag Cemetery where he will be at peaceful rest.

THANK YOU AND SALAMAT PO
Please join us in prayers.
 THE FAMILY

Kim Kardashian West breaks silence on Paris heist in teaser

NEW YORK

(AP)—A tearful Kim Kardashian West breaks her silence on her Paris robbery in a new teaser for the family's reality show, telling two of her sisters her thoughts at West the time: "They're going to shoot me in the back. There's no way out."



She's also seen on the short clip released Friday by E! ahead of the upcoming March season sobbing on the phone over husband Kanye West's hospitalization in November.

"Don't scare me, please. What's going on," Kardashian West said. "I think

he really needs me, and I have to go home."

Kardashian West was bound, gagged and held at gunpoint in October inside a Paris hotel room by masked

men who stole jewelry and escaped. She recalls the incident in the clip to sisters Khloe Kardashian and Kourtney Kardashian, adding: "It makes me so upset to think about it."

Her rapper husband was admitted to UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles for sleep deprivation and exhaustion, later canceling his Saint Pablo tour. It was unclear where

Kardashian West was at the time she learned the news.

The show, "Keeping Up with the Kardashians," returns in March but no specific date has been announced.

Reynolds, Fisher laid to rest at Hollywood Hills cemetery

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Carrie Fisher, who has been laid to rest alongside her mother Debbie Reynolds, was adored by family, friends and fans for her gallows humor and frank talk about her struggles with mental illness.

What better home for her ashes then, her brother Todd Fisher and daughter Billie Lourd decided, than a porcelain urn in the shape of an out-sized anti-depressant?

"Carrie's favorite possession was a giant Prozac pill that she bought many years ago," Todd Fisher said Friday as he left the private joint funeral at Forest Lawn - Hollywood Hills for his mother and sister. "She loved it, and it was in her house, and Billie and I felt it was where she'd want to be," he said.

Other than Carrie Fisher's cremation and unique urn, nearly no details were revealed about the ceremony, or about what form the two

women's graves took.

They'll have plenty of celebrity company at the sprawling, hillside cemetery just across the Los Angeles River from Warner Bros. and Disney studios, including Bette Davis, Lucille Ball, Dick Van Patten, Liberace and Florence Henderson.

The funeral came a day after the two actresses were eulogized by family and close friends at a private memorial service at their neighboring homes in Coldwater Canyon, about 10 miles west.

Fisher, who played Princess Leia in four "Star Wars" films, died at age 60 on Dec. 27. Reynolds, star of "Singin' in the Rain" and many other classic musicals, died a day later at age 84.

Todd Fisher said Friday he'll remember his mother and sister most for their resilience, and said both reminded him of Reynold's role in 1964's "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

Lyle Menendez talks prison life after parents' 1989 murders

IONE, Calif. (AP)—Lyle Menendez says his childhood prepared him "surprisingly well for the chaos of prison life."

Menendez and his younger brother, Erik, killed their wealthy parents, Jose and Kitty Menendez, at their Beverly Hills home in 1989. The brothers admitted the killings. They were convicted of murder in 1996 and sentenced to life terms without parole.

Lyle Menendez is now 48. He tells ABC News in a phone interview from a California prison that he maintains a close



bond with his brother, even though he is being housed at a

separate facility. He also reiterated claims of sexual abuse

AP
In this Oct. 20, 1995, file photo, Lyle Menendez looks up during testimony in his and brother Erik's retrial for the shotgun slayings of their parents in Los Angeles. With Lyle is his attorney Terri Towerly.

at the hands of his father.

Kitty Menendez's brother denied those claims to ABC News, saying there's "no indication" Jose Menendez abused his sons.

Lyle Menendez also says he's happily married, though he is barred from having conjugal visits with his wife.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

National Society of Film Critics: 'Moonlight' best picture

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Society of Film Critics has voted "Moonlight" the best picture of 2016. Society members who gathered Saturday at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York also gave Barry Jenkins the best director award for the film. The movie is a coming-of-age tale about a young, gay, black kid growing up in a poor, drug-ridden neighborhood of Miami. The critics also passed out best acting awards to Casey Affleck for "Manchester by the

Sea" and Isabelle Huppert for both "Elle" and "Things to Come." Best supporting actor and actress are Mahershala Ali in "Moonlight" and Michelle Williams in "Manchester by the Sea."

Whoopi Goldberg, North Carolina commissioner in online feud

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — Comedian and talk-show host Whoopi Goldberg is being targeted by a North Carolina county commissioner over her comments about President-elect Donald Trump. Local media reports New Hanover County

Commission Chairman Woody White used Facebook to criticize Cape Fear Community College for hosting Goldberg's concert June 23. White asked if taxpayers were footing the bill and if the school was going to bring conservative performers to the campus. White also criticized the school for "providing a venue for someone who just a few weeks ago was moving to Canada in protest to Trumps election? Terrible." Goldberg responded on Twitter that she never said she would leave if Trump was elected. The school said ticket sales will help cover the cost of Goldberg's appearance.

Inventory of Prince's estate lists cash, property, gold bars

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—An inventory of Prince's estate submitted to a probate court in Minnesota shows he had acquired tens of millions of dollars' worth of real estate and

other personal property before he died last year.

Much of the value of his estate hasn't been established yet, including unreleased recordings and videos from his vault,

according to the Star Tribune.

Prince died April 21 of an accidental overdose of the painkiller fentanyl. He did not leave a will. His estate has been valued at between \$100

million and \$300 million, before taxes.

Carver County District Court records show that an asset inventory by Bremer Trust, the company overseeing the estate, lists a dozen properties in Carver and Hennepin coun-

ties with an estimated value of \$25.4 million. It lists about \$110,000 in four bank accounts, as well as unclaimed property, capital credits and cash, and 67 10-ounce gold bars with a total value of nearly \$840,000.

In addition, Prince's compa-

nies, Paisley Park Enterprises Inc., NPG Records Inc., NPG Music Publishing and Lotus-Flow3r had more than \$6 million in cash on hand at the time of his death. NPG Records has an estimated \$6.8 million in arbitration receivable.

Key to wife's hoarding may be in her genes

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I and our 13-year-old son live in a nice home we have been remodeling for the last eight years. The problem is, my wife has a hard time getting rid of anything, and she constantly brings home "new projects" that take up space but never get done. At one point, we hired a professional organizer because we had reached the point of having "goat trails" as the only means of navigating our way around the house. We also have a barn that is chockablock full.

I have heard that the root cause may be due to an anomaly on a chromosome. How should I approach my wife about getting some genetic testing done? Her mom is also a professional pack rat. The clutter is taking its toll on our relationship—we are in marriage counseling—and on our family. We have so much stuff I can't breathe.

SUFFOCATING IN MONTANA

DEAR SUFFOCATING: It is interesting that your wife's mother also has this problem. Hoarding is related to obsessive-compulsive disorder, which can run in families, and has been known to be associated with depression, anxiety and bipolar disorder.

It couldn't hurt if your wife had genetic testing done, but the suggestion might be better coming from the

marriage counselor rather than from you, because if she hears it from you, she might become defensive or resistant.

DEAR ABBY: I have worked at the same small company for 25 years. All but one of the employees have been with this company for more than 20 years. "Grace" has been here only three years. She is pleasant, funny, trustworthy and easy to be around. However, she never brings her own lunch.

If something is in the refrigerator, she feels it is fair game to eat it. If I bring something she wants, she will come up to me, take the bag and ask, "What's for lunch this week?"

I keep snacks in my desk, and she knows which drawer I keep them in. When I reach for something to hold me over, sometimes the drawer will be empty and the bag will be on her desk or in her trash. It infuriates me.

I have made subtle comments on how this upsets me. I have progressed to no longer bringing my lunch. I know she can afford her own lunch. She earns more than I do and doesn't have children or a mortgage. How do I tell this woman to keep her hands off my lunch and snacks?

HUNGRY IN HOUSTON

DEAR HUNGRY: How "trustworthy" can Grace be if

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



she steals your food? When her outrageous behavior and petty thievery started, you shouldn't have hinted—you should have TOLD the woman to keep her hands off your lunch and out of your desk drawers. If she didn't respect your wishes, you should have reported it to your supervisor or your boss.

It's still not too late to do that, and I suggest that if there isn't a policy in your company handbook pertaining to this kind of pilfering that one be included.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

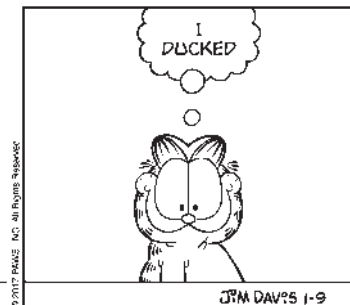


By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

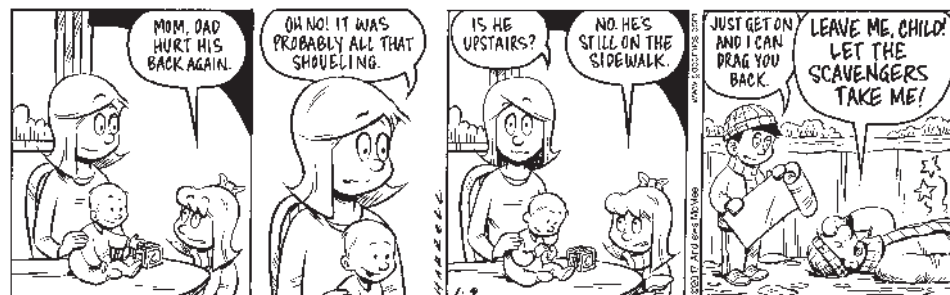


By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Misplace from a

5 Man-tourna-ment

8 "Thirty days — ..."

12 California city

14 Gymnast Korbut

15 Like a menu on a website

16 Bar

17 Back talk

18 Import duty

20 Plains grazers

23 Comic Jay

24 Bohemian

25 Dome-shaped candy

28 Pro vote

29 High-five sounds

30 Blue

DOWN

1 Leary's unit

2 Rowing need

3 — cone

4 Hire

5 Perched on

6 Just out

7 Disdain

8 Wes Craven's genre

9 Jai —

10 Pre-weekend

11 50%

13 Tennis score

19 &&&&

20 Inlet

21 Angered

22 Rating

23 Maui feasts

25 Scowled

26 Lena of "Chocolat"

27 Skin opening

29 Faced

31 Marry

33 Narcotic

34 Melted-cheese dish

36 Galvanizing

37 Mosque

38 Cleopatra's river

39 Coin aperture

40 Slapstick arsenal

43 Chopper

44 ACLU concerns

45 "Alley —"

46 Snoot

Solution time: 26 mins.

Friday's answer 1-9

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nina Dobrev, 28; Kate Middleton, 35; Dave Matthews, 50; Jimmy Page, 73.

Happy Birthday: Strategize and make every move count. Impulse will lead to trouble and excessive behavior will be costly. Monitor what you do carefully using past experience as a guide to understanding what is developing in your environment. Find a unique way to navigate toward your destination of choice. Refuse to let what others do influence you. Your numbers are 4, 9, 15, 21, 24, 37, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Learn as you go and make adjustments that will help you transform some of the things you don't like into positive life experiences. Take control, express your wants and needs and move forward with confidence. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Step up, take action and learn as you move forward. A steady pace will get you to the finish line, offering personal satisfaction and a renewed sense of purpose. If you want something bad enough, you can find a way to make it happen. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let your emotions lead you into an awkward or difficult situation at work or at home. Bide your time and keep your thoughts to yourself until you have gathered all the facts. Don't act on an assumption. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at what you have going your way and put your energy into gaining positive results. Make your decisions based on what's realistic,

not someone else's get-rich-quick scheme. Concentrate on personal improvements and professional gains. Romance is highlighted. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make a decision and follow through. You can improve your domestic or work environment if you are disciplined and stick to your plan. You know what's best for you and shouldn't let anyone use emotional manipulation to persuade you otherwise. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Think matters through before you make a move. Nothing will be as it appears. Listen to your gut and don't feel pressured by what others do. Do your homework and put greater emphasis on networking and gathering information. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't count on others to do things for you. Empty promises will leave you in a compromising position. Do the work yourself and avoid complaints and criticism. Draw on past experiences and be prepared to learn as you go. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Size up your situation at home and consider your options before you make a move. Don't let emotions take over, leading to a costly mistake. Pay attention to personal papers, investments and any medical issues you have. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional manipulation will be used to influence or pressure you into something you should consider carefully before making a commitment. False impressions will lead to circumstances that can result in legal battles. Don't make premature or unrealistic promises. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Rely on what you know to help you get things done. Stand firm when faced with someone who is pressuring you to take impulsive action. Time is on your side. Focus on personal improvements that better your chance to advance. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Upgrade your living quarters or invest in something that will help you gain ground financially. Volunteer to join a cause you believe in or a group working toward positive changes in your community. Negotiate and sign contracts. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Offer assistance to others, not criticism. Speaking or making a judgment call prematurely will lead to an emotional scene. Being thoughtful will make someone you love proud of the way you handle matters. ★★

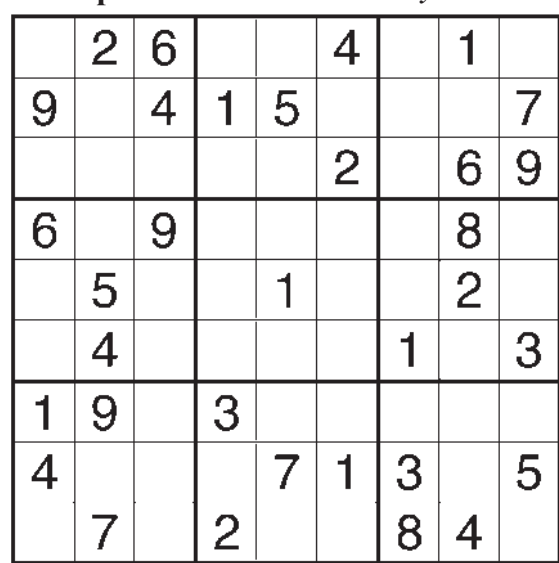
Birthday Baby: You are tenacious, intense and energetic. You are goal-oriented and ambitious.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

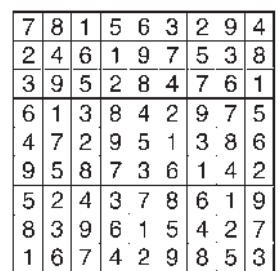
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★

1/109

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BAY OF KOTOR, MONTENEGRO

Solution: 9 letters



©2017 Andrew Volmer, www.wonderword.com. Download the Wonderword Game App! 1/9

Adriatic, Baosici, Beach, Bijela, Boating, Bus, Cattaro, Cliffs, Climb, Djordje, Dobrota, Donja, Gospa Od Skrpjela, Harbor, Herceg, Igalo, Kakrc, Kamenari, Krasici, Lipci, Market, Marko, Morinj, Mountains, Muo, Novi, Old Town, Palaces, Perast, Porto, Prcanj, Rafting, Rain, Risan, River, Rock, Sand, Shore, Sveti, Tivat, Walk, Wet, Winding, Zelenika

Last Friday's Answer: Lighthearted

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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P.O. Box 500542
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 285-5862

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER)
OF THE PETITION TO)
APPOINT GENERAL)
GUARDIANSHIP FOR:) FCD GU
CIVIL ACTION
NO. 16-0579

M. J. C. M.)
Minor Child)

By:)
NOTICE OF
HEARING

LUIS MANIBUSAN)
AND TERESITA SABLAN)
MANIBUSAN)
Petitioners.)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition to Appoint Legal Guardians for the above-named minor child by Luis and Teresita Manibusan Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before the Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo on the 19th day of January, 2017 at 10:30 am or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner: Eugene Pangelinan

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF) Civil Action
THE ESTATE OF:) No. 16-0255C
SUMMONS

CECILIA REYES)
PANGELINAN,) NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PETITION FOR
LETTERS OF
ADMINISTRATOR and

Decedent.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Date: February 2, 2017
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Judge: Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE CECILIA REYES PANGELINAN OR OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Eugene Pangelinan** of Pohnpei State, FSM ("Petitioner"), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letter of Administration of the Estate of Cecilia Reyes Pangelinan, Decedent. The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Eugene Pangelinan, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on February 2, 2017 at 9:00am, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of from the first publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 29th day of December, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

WHATZIT Solution: A pair of overalls

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 07-2016
Opening date: December 28, 2016 Closing date: January 13, 2017

Positions: (2) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)
(1) General Maintenance-I (Saipan) (1) Rota Ports Manager
(1) ARFF Trainee (Saipan) (1) Vessel Traffic Controller (Saipan)
(1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 111-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office is no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, January 13, 2017.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at cpa.personnel@pticom.com or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

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Executive Director

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- Answer questions and advise customers regarding loans and transactions.
- Contact customers by mail, telephone, or in person concerning acceptance or rejection of applications.

Qualifications: High School Graduate or Equivalent, must demonstrate excellent Microsoft Office Skills, must have excellent communication and customer service skills.

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WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

OF OF ALL ALL

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Rumbling again, Thomas Rawls leads Seattle past Detroit



SEATTLE (AP)—The formula that has led the Seattle Seahawks to unmatched success over the past five seasons returned.

A healthy dose of Thomas Rawls rumbling on the ground. A few timely throws by Russell Wilson helped by some remarkable catches. And a defense that never allowed Detroit a sniff of the end zone.

"This felt like old times. This felt great," Seattle cornerback Richard Sherman said.

Rawls rushed for a franchise playoff-record 161 yards, Paul Richardson made one of the catches of the year for his first career postseason touchdown, and the Seahawks beat the Lions 26-6 on Saturday night in an NFC wild-card game.

"It kept the chains going," Rawls said. "We want to end like this. We want to end with a great mark running the football, which is our identity, playing tough hard-nosed Seahawks football, and that's exactly what we did."

Seattle won its 10th straight home playoff game, continuing Detroit's miserable conclusion to the season that finished with four straight losses. Detroit's long playoff history without postseason success continued: no playoff wins since 1992. No road playoff wins since 1957.

"We're walking away with nothing," Detroit cornerback Darius Slay said.

Rawls was the workhorse as the run game the Seahawks became known for when Marshawn Lynch was in the backfield finally found consistency that was missing all season. Rawls bettered Lynch's 157 yards in the 2014 NFC championship game against Green



Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Paul Richardson (10) makes a one-handed catch ahead of Detroit Lions cornerback Nevin Lawson, left, in the second half of an NFL football NFC wild card playoff game, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, in Seattle.

Bay. Rawls had runs of 12, 14, 26 and a 32-yarder late in the third quarter, when Wilson ended up being his lead blocker.

Rawls capped his night with a 4-yard touchdown run that gave Seattle a 19-6 lead. He was the first player with at least 150 yards rushing in a playoff game since Lynch's performance against the Packers.

While Rawls did the grunt work, Richardson filled the highlight reel with a trio of catches. None was better than his 2-yard touchdown in the second quarter to give Seattle a 7-0 lead.

"I didn't know that I had it until I got it, honestly," Rich-

ardson said.

Richardson went horizontal reaching out with his left hand to cradle the pass as he was being interfered with by Tavon Wilson. What wasn't called on the play was Richardson's right hand yanking on the facemask of Wilson as he reached to make the catch.

Richardson had another one-handed catch in the fourth quarter, and Doug Baldwin got into the act of amazing catches, pinning a 10-yard reception to the back of his leg late in the fourth quarter to continue a Seattle drive. Two plays later, Baldwin's 13-yard touchdown reception put it away.

Baldwin ran the wrong route and the pass was actually intended for teammate Jermaine Kearse.

"I wasn't where I was supposed to be," said Baldwin, who was remorseful for taking away the TD from his teammate. "Fortunately it worked out."

Wilson finished 23 of 30 for 224 yards, while Baldwin had 11 catches for 104 yards.

Overshadowed by the offensive performance was Seattle's defense shutting down the Lions. Hampered by a handful of dropped passes and some untimely penalties, the Lions could only manage a pair of long Matt Prater field goals.

Matthew Stafford was 18 of 32 for 205 yards. He was sacked three times and Detroit never ran a play inside the Seattle 33-yard line.

"We definitely knew if we came in and focused, we'd be fine," All-Pro linebacker Bobby Wagner said. "We knew they got some great players on the other end, but we were just locked in all week and we prepared very well. We knew we were going to play well."

Seattle was 4 of 11 on fourth downs during the regular season, but got two big conversions on its first touchdown drive. On fourth-and-1 at the Detroit 39, Rawls bounced for 4 yards; the drive was capped

by Richardson's catch on fourth-and-goal from the 2.

Detroit wasn't so successful. On its third possession, it went on fourth-and-2 from the Seattle 38. The oddly designed play had Stafford throwing behind the line of scrimmage to Matthew Mulligan. The play was blown up by Wagner and K.J. Wright for a 2-yard loss.

Prater became the first kicker with multiple 50-yard field goals made in the same playoff game, and Seattle's Steven Hauschka was true on both of his field goal attempts. But Hauschka missed his seventh extra point of the season after Rawls' touchdown with 8:43 remaining.

HOUSTON (AP)—Brock Osweiler redeemed himself after last month's benching. Jadeveon Clowney established himself as a postseason force.

And the Houston Texans got their first playoff victory since the 2012 season Saturday against the Oakland Raiders.

Osweiler threw for a touchdown and ran for another to lead the Texans to a 27-14 wild-card playoff win over Oakland. Clowney, erasing any doubts he deserved to be the top pick in the 2014 draft, got his first career interception.

Osweiler, benched on Dec. 18, got his job back this week with Tom Savage out with a concussion, played his best game of the season. It was the first career playoff game for Osweiler, who was benched for Peyton Manning before the postseason last season with Denver, and coach Bill O'Brien said he'll start again next week. Osweiler finished

Osweiler returns to lead Texans over Oakland, 27-14

with 168 yards passing.

"It just goes back to having confidence in my teammates," Osweiler said. "Believing in what you see and just rip it. Cut it loose and don't have any hesitation. I trust that my teammates, the skill guys, they're going to be where they're supposed to be. and they're going to make me look good in the end."

Houston (10-7) and its top-ranked defense, led by Clowney and Whitney Mercilus, bounced back after an embarrassing 30-0 wild-card loss to Kansas City last season to advance to face either the Chiefs or New England in the divisional round next weekend. Clowney was roundly criticized in his first two injury-plagued seasons before starring this year to help make up for the loss of J.J. Watt.

"Those guys picked me No. 1; they (saw) something in me," Clowney said. "Things didn't go well earlier in my career, but I'm on the right track now. Things are coming together, I'm healthier. I'm playing good ball and we're all coming together and playing good defense."

The Raiders' first trip to the playoffs since the 2002 season, when they went to the Super Bowl, ended with a thud behind the struggles of third-string rookie Connor Cook. He threw for 161 yards with one touchdown and three interceptions.

"It was his first start, on the road, in a playoff game, against the No. 1-ranked defense. It was a tough draw for him," coach Jack Del Rio said. "We had hopes that we would be able to do enough around

him so he wouldn't have to do as much."

He became the first quarterback in NFL history to make his first start in a playoff game after MVP contender Derek Carr broke his leg two weeks ago, and Matt McGloin injured his shoulder on Sunday. His performance wasn't helped by star left tackle Donald Penn missing the game with a knee injury, which ended a streak of 160 straight starts.

"We missed Donald, he had a great year for us," Del Rio said. "Losing a Pro Bowl tackle was a blow."

Houston led by 13 at half-time and made it 27-7 on a 1-yard run by Osweiler early in the fourth quarter.

The Raiders (12-5) cut the lead when Andre Holmes grabbed an 8-yard touchdown reception on their next posses-

sion. Oakland got a stop after that, but Corey Moore intercepted Cook on the next possession.

"I was trying to do too much out there, at times," Cook said.

Oakland cornerback David Amerson believes things would have been different if not for the team's injuries.

"I've got all the faith in Connor or Matt—any backups we've got," he said. "But they know, at full strength, ain't nobody in the league touching us, man. We're going to take this loss on the chin, and we're going to come back, for sure."

DeAndre Hopkins had a touchdown reception for the Texans and Lamar Miller gave Houston a 10-0 lead in the first quarter on a TD run one play after Clowney's interception.

Houston took a 3-0 lead with a 50-yard field goal by Nick Novak with about eight

minutes left in the first quarter.

Clowney batted a pass by Cook with one hand, then tipped it with his other one before pulling it down for the interception later in the quarter. He probably would have scored on the play, but in the time it took him to grab the ball, Raiders running back Latavius Murray had latched on to one of his ankles and was pulling him down.

Miller scampered untouched on the next play for a 4-yard touchdown to make it 10-7.

The Raiders got a 2-yard TD run by Murray late in the first quarter.

Houston added a field goal in the second quarter before making it 20-7 on a 2-yard reception by Hopkins. That score was set up when Osweiler delivered a 38-yard pass to Hopkins just before the receiver stepped out of bounds two plays earlier.

Westbrook's 17th triple-double lifts Thunder past Nuggets



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Russell Westbrook had 32 points, 17 rebounds and 11 assists for his 17th triple-double of the season as the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Denver Nuggets 121-106 in the NBA on Saturday night.

Westbrook made seven 3-pointers after hitting a career-high eight Thursday night at Houston, and matched his season high in rebounds in the 54th triple-double of his career. The Thunder improved to 32-3 the past two seasons when Westbrook gets a triple-double.

Steven Adams scored 16 points, and Victor Oladipo added 15 to help the Thunder snap a three-game losing streak. Wilson Chandler scored 24 points for Denver. The Nuggets have lost five in a row.

Bulls 123, Raptors 118, OT

In Chicago, Jimmy Butler scored 42 points as Chicago overcame a 19-point deficit to beat Toronto.

Butler led a big run in the

fourth quarter and hit a 3 with 17.3 seconds left in overtime for a five-point lead. He also hit the 40-point mark for the third time in six games.

Dwyane Wade added 20 points, and Doug McDermott had 17 to help the Bulls win their 10th in a row against Toronto. DeMar DeRozan led the Raptors with 36 points, and Kyle Lowry added 27 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds. The Atlantic Division leaders lost for the fourth time in six games.

Celtics 117, Pelicans 108

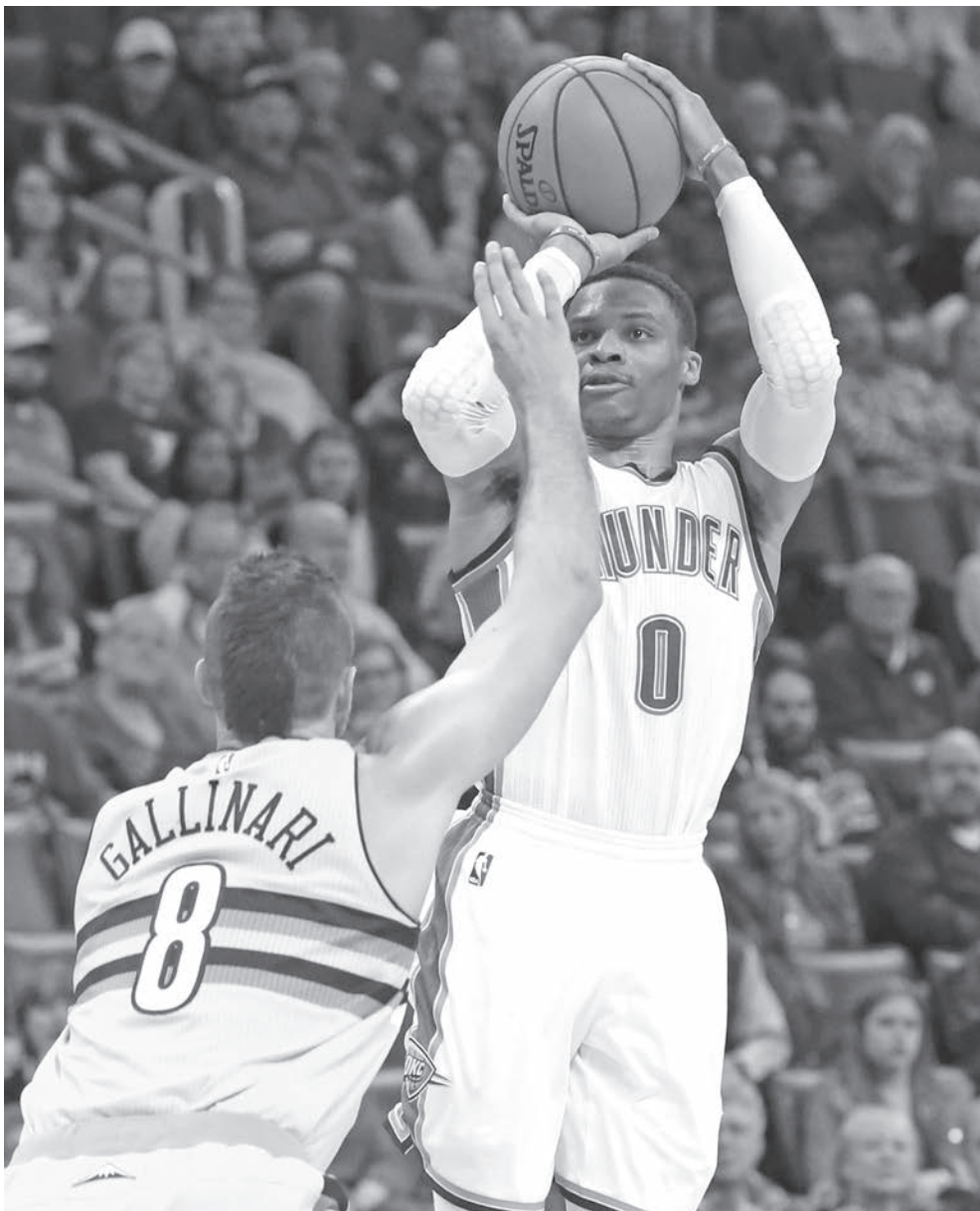
In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 38 points and Marcus Smart added a season-high 22 to lift Boston beat New Orleans.

It was the 21st consecutive 20-point game for Thomas. Gerald Green added 15, and Kelly Olynyk had 12 to help the Celtics win their fourth straight.

Anthony Davis had 36 points and 15 rebounds for the Pelicans.

Hawks 97, Mavericks 82

In Dallas, Tim Hardaway



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) shoots over Denver Nuggets forward Danilo Gallinari (8) in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017.

minutes to play, but closed on an 11-0 run.

Zach LaVine had 24 points, nine rebounds and four assists and Karl-Anthony Towns had 18 points and 15 rebounds for the Timberwolves. They have lost four straight games.

Spurs 102, Hornets 85

In San Antonio, Davis Bertans scored a season-high 21 points to help San Antonio beat Charlotte.

Kawhi Leonard added 19 points and LaMarcus Aldridge had 15 points and 11 rebounds. San Antonio has won nine straight at home and 13 of 15 overall.

San Antonio is 13-0 when Bertans scores a point and he was 4 for 5 on 3-pointers in leading the Spurs in scoring for the first time this season.

Kemba Walker had 18 points for Charlotte.

Pacers 123, Knicks 109

In Indianapolis, Paul George and Jeff Teague each scored 19 points to lead Indiana over New York.

Thaddeus Young had 16 points and nine rebounds, C.J. Miles added 15 points, and the Pacers won their fifth straight.

Carmelo Anthony and Brandon Jennings each scored 17 points for the Knicks. They lost for the seventh time in eight games.

Blazers-Pistons, other events postponed because of storm

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Portland Trail Blazers' game against the Detroit Pistons was among several sporting events postponed because of a winter storm that blew into Oregon on Saturday.

Other games that were called off because of snow and ice included No. 5 Gonzaga at Portland and the Western Hockey League game between the Portland Winterhawks and the Everett Silvertips at Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

The Trail Blazers rescheduled the game against the Pistons for Sunday night.

"The safety of our fans and players is always the highest priority, and this decision to delay our home game until Sunday was made with that in mind," said Chris McGowan, the president and CEO of the Trail Blazers and Rose Quarter. "Input from the NBA, local government and public safety officials also played a role in our decision to postpone until Sunday."

Blazers' guard Damian Lillard was asked of Twitter if it was the first time he'd been snowed out of a game, and the former Weber State star replied: "I've seen way worse weather in Utah and the show went on."

There was no makeup game yet set for the game between Gonzaga and Portland. Tickets will be honored at the rescheduled game. Fans unable to attend will be offered a ticket

to another Pilots' game at the Chiles Center.

"After consulting with a variety of public safety officials, and with the support of the West Coast Conference, it is the best decision to postpone the game," athletic director Scott Leykam said.

No makeup date was rescheduled for the Winterhawks-Silvertips game. The Winterhawks' game against Kamloops set for Sunday evening at the Moda Center was moved to the adjacent Memorial Coliseum because of the rescheduled Trail Blazers' game.

The Portland State men's basketball game with Sacramento State was played as scheduled at the Stott Center, with the Vikings winning 83-76 in front of a crowd listed at 211 people.

The decision was made to play the game because both teams and the officials were able to get to the game, and because of the difficulty in rescheduling.

In a statement, Portland State said that "fans are not expected to come to the game unless they are certain they can make it safely." The game was streamed on the team's website for those unable to attend.

The National Weather Service forecast called for the possibility of freezing rain Saturday night through Sunday morning, changing over to rain by Sunday evening as temperatures rise.

Jr. and Dennis Schroder assumed Atlanta's 3-point shooting role with Kyle Korver traded, leading the Hawks past Dallas.

The Hawks dealt Korver, their leading long-range shooter, to Cleveland earlier Saturday.

Hardaway finished with 22 points, going 5 of 8 on 3-pointers. Schroder scored

20 points and was 3 for 5 from 3-point range. Dwight Howard had 20 rebounds and 15 points in Atlanta's sixth straight win.

Harrison Barnes led Dallas with 21 points.

Jazz 94, Timberwolves 92

In Minneapolis, George Hill scored 19 points in his return

from a concussion and Rudy Gobert tipped in a rebound with 27.5 seconds to play to lift Utah past Minnesota.

Derrick Favors scored seven of his 15 points in the fourth, and Gobert finished with 12 points, 13 rebounds and four blocks as the Jazz rallied from 11 points down to start the final quarter. They still trailed by nine with three

Cavs acquire Korver, complete deal with Hawks

CLEVELAND (AP)—The defending NBA champions just got a whole lot tougher to stop.

Two days after agreeing to the deal, the Cleveland Cavaliers completed a trade with Atlanta for Kyle Korver, one of the league's best 3-point shooters, who will be able to spot up on the perimeter and wait for LeBron James to pass him the ball.

The Cavs sent forward Mike Dunleavy, guard Mo Williams, cash and a protected future first-round draft pick to the Hawks for Korver, a 14-year veteran whose ability to come off screens and deep range challenges defenses.

"It adds another dynamic piece to our team," James said. "Hell of a sharp shooter and just a great guy. Great professional, as you've seen over his career. A guy that's played at a high level for a long time, has championship

aspirations. And, he has another rocket launcher."

The trade was agreed upon Thursday and completed Saturday.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to add a player and person the caliber of Kyle Korver to our Cavs family," general manager David Griffin said. "Among the most prolific and dynamic 3-point shooters in NBA history, a selfless, and team first competitor, Kyle brings all of the elements of Cavs DNA that we covet on and off the floor."

The 35-year-old Korver is expected to help Cleveland offset the loss of J.R. Smith, who will be out until April after suffering a complex thumb fracture and undergoing surgery. The 6-foot-7 Korver has made 43 percent of his 3-pointers during his career and also has plenty of postseason experience.

With James, Kyrie Irving,

Kevin Love and Korver on the floor, defenses will have to decide who to guard. If Korver got open looks at the basket with Atlanta, he'll have even more opportunities with the Cavs.

"I could only imagine him coming off those pin downs and whether he's open or not, we're telling him to shoot it," Irving said after Friday's win at Brooklyn. "Every shooter that comes here, we tell them Bron's statement: 'If a guy's not in your numbers, then you're open.' So I know he'll pretty much enjoy that. We're looking forward to getting to know who he is as a person and a teammate, and we're going to integrate the best way we know how."

While Korver enjoyed his time with Atlanta and will miss those friendships, he's joining the team that eliminated him from the playoffs the past two seasons. Cleveland

has swept Atlanta in each of the past two postseasons.

Korver has 72 hours to report to the Cavs and will still need to undergo a physical. It's possible he could join them on Sunday in Phoenix, the first of five games out West for the Cavs, whose trip will conclude with a Jan. 16 matchup at Golden State.

Coach Tyronn Lue said he intends to bring Korver off the bench.

Griffin's ability to pull off the trade helped the Cavs on a few fronts. It gave them more firepower and he was able to open up a roster spot by dealing Dunleavy, who was a disappointment in his first season for Cleveland, and Williams, who hasn't played after saying he was retiring. By dumping him on Atlanta, Cleveland is also ridding itself of the rest of Williams' \$2.1 million salary and avoiding luxury tax issues.

Hello, Cleveland: Indians welcome slugger Encarnacion



CLEVELAND
(AP)—With

his family watching proudly, Edwin Encarnacion stood in front of his new locker inside Cleveland's clubhouse, pulled on a fitted cap and slowly buttoned the front of his white No. 10 jersey.

Once finished, he pointed to the "Indians" logo on his chest and flashed a huge smile as cameras clicked.

It felt seamless.

"He's a perfect fit for our team," Indians president Chris Antonetti said Thursday.

In so many ways.

The Indians, accustomed to being outspent for high-priced free agents winter after winter, introduced Encarnacion, a premium player for the middle of their lineup who will boost attendance and maybe help them win the World Series.

One of baseball's most productive hitters over the past five years, Encarnacion finalized a \$60 million, three-year contract—the richest in Cleveland history—with a team that got to Game 7 of the Series last season.

Encarnacion's deal would be worth \$80 million over four years if the Indians exercise a \$25 million option for 2020



Cleveland Indians' Edwin Encarnacion smiles wearing a Cleveland Indians jersey, Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017, in Cleveland.

win the World Series with the talent that we have."

The Indians' courtship of Encarnacion began with owner Paul Dolan's commitment to building on the momentum created by the team's AL Central title and first Series appearance since 1997. Cleveland was boosted by cleanup hitter Mike Napoli, who set career highs in homers and RBIs during his one season with the Indians.

There were better options available and, after deciding not to re-sign Napoli, the Indians focused on Encarnacion, who hit 42 homers and drove in 127 runs last season. Antonetti didn't have to sell Dolan on Encarnacion's obvious talents. The challenge was convincing him that the slugger was worth a long-term financial obligation.

"It took a lot of work to make that happen, both compromises from our side and compromises from Edwin's side to make this fit and be the right fit for both teams," Antonetti said. "And it took a great leap of faith by ownership to make that extraordinary investment."

It also took some clever negotiating.

As the sides were nearing a deal, Oakland made a \$50

million, two-year offer that caused the Indians to counter. Kinzer proposed an attendance clause, a suggestion Antonetti initially wasn't sure was possible.

"That was a way to bridge the gap," Kinzer said. "When Edwin went on that run five years ago, Toronto was at 1.9 (million) in attendance. Now, they're at 3.4. Well, if Edwin contributes to that, then we should be rewarded for it."

Encarnacion gets a \$5 million signing bonus, half payable on May 1 and the rest Aug. 1, and salaries of \$13 million this year, \$17 million in 2018 and \$20 million in 2019.

The Indians agreed and Encarnacion has already made an impact, as the team has sold more than \$1 million in season tickets since he agreed to the deal on Dec. 22. He would earn bonuses of \$150,000 each when the Indians reach 2 million, 2.15 million, 2.3 million, 2.5 million and 2.75 million in home attendance. He can make another \$250,000 for 3 million.

Once the deal's parameters were settled, Antonetti and Kinzer then had to maneuver around some family holiday obligations.

As they neared an agreement, Kinzer was at Six Flags Amusement Park in Atlanta with his grandchildren to see Santa Claus, while Antonetti was attending a performance of "The Little Mermaid" with his wife and two daughters.

QQ

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Rent A Car with 12 and 10, respectively, while Ester and Joy Jones added 6 each.

In the first women's division match, Fiesta Resort & Spa took the solo lead in the eight-team field after dominating CTSI, 46-28.

Fiesta now has a 2-0 record to take the top spot in the team standings, while CTSI slid to second with its 2-1 mark.

Chevy Kate Alipio did most of the damage for Fiesta as she finished with a game-high 23 points. He led Fiesta's breakaway in the second half where he scored 13 points, including 11 of the team's last 13 markers.

In the first boys U16 division game, Gen Cup leaned on the strong offensive game

of John Paul Cruz to slip past 670 Thunder.

Cruz sizzled for 22 points and hit clutch baskets in the homestretch. He had 4 of Gen Cup's last 5 markers to complete the squad's recovery as they battled back from a 10-point halftime deficit.

John Elchico also provided help, nailing 4 free throws and making 6 straight markers in their second half rally, while Zhao Cheng's early baskets kept Gen Cup afloat in the first.

The 670 Thunder, which led by double digits at the break, 23-13, fell to a 1-2 record after its second half collapse.

U16

Gen Cup 50 — Cruz 22, Cheng 11, Elchico 8, Sacdalan 5, Cai 4.

670 Thunder 48 — Ruiz

Encarnacion averaged 39 homers and 110 RBIs over the past five seasons with Toronto, which made it to the AL Championship Series last season only to be eliminated in five games by the Indians.

Encarnacion, who turns 34 on Saturday, watched Cleveland's players celebrate at Rogers Centre that day in October not ever imagining he would be joining them a little

more than two months later.

But while he figured to land with Boston or Texas or in another major market, Cleveland's pitch was the most persistent.

And although the first baseman and designated hitter could have made more money elsewhere, Encarnacion wanted to join a winner. The Indians, with one of the majors' best pitching staffs and a lineup featuring young stars in Francisco Lindor and Jason Kipnis, are positioned to contend for years.

"That's why I came here," Encarnacion said. "I believe in this team and I know we can

TANHOLDINGS

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markers to pace GPPC's losing cause, while Randy Mungcal added 18.

GPPC and TanHoldings 1 are in Pool A of the 16-team league, joining Docomo Pacific, McDonald's, Joeten, Best Deal/RNV Construction, Triple J, and CUC. Pool B has TanHoldings 2, KB Construction, Westco, Coca-Cola/Subway, Mariana Resort, Mobil/COAG, Top Development, Inc., and Star Water.

Teams will play the squads in their group once for the

elimination round, while the playoffs will be a crossover format between Pool A and B participants.

Three more matches took place on opening day and results will be reported this week.

TanHoldings 118

Schmidt 26, E. Duenas 21, M. Duenas 16, Matsutaro 16, Pablo 14, Demapan 9, Quizon 8, Esdreton 3.

GPPC 63 — Ocampo 20, Mungcal 18, Santos 14, M. Tagle 4, R. Tagle 4.

Scoring by quarters: 27-13, 50-25, 79-46, 118-63.

Daggmarr in a closely fought match, 6-4, 3-6, 9-11.

The Kaga sisters also prevailed in their opening games before missing the Final Four trip. Conatsu was paired with Emily Beetson and they topped Natasha Phillips-Edgar and Mia Savio, 7-5, 6-7, 10-3, before being beaten by No. 1 seed Tamara Bajagic and Chloe Green, 2-6, 0-6. Coume, on the other hand, joined forces with Elisa Townsend and they swept Roxanne Lilico and Lauren Milosis, 6-3, 6-3. Coume and her partner, unfortunately,

14, Bravo 11, Litusquen 10, Linaogo 6, Magat 3, Francisco 2, Dico 2.

Scoring by halves: 23-13, 50-48.

WOMEN'S First Game

Fiesta Resort 46 — Alipio 23, Tuazon 10, Pagarao 4, Francisco 3, Phan 2, Joyce 2, Ito 2.

CTSI 28 — Kautz 14, Castillo 5, Camacho 4, Espinosa 2, Iriarte 2.

Scoring by halves: 27-16, 46-28.

Second Game

QQ Rent A Car 37 — Toves 12, Han 10, Alcantara 9, Chinen 4, Bucalig 2.

Shirley's 18 — E. Jones 6, J. Jones 6, R. Jones 2, Muna 4.

Scoring by halves: 15-12, 37-18.

set and closed out strong, 10-5, to remain in contention in singles play.

In the doubles, Miyawaki and her fellow CNMI bet Conatsu and Coume Kaga are out of the race.

Miyawaki teamed up with Vanuatu's Rosalie Molbaleh and they won over Australia's Chloe Anne Brereton and Cassie Fleming, 6-1, 6-4, to book a quarterfinal ticket. However, the two Pacific Oceania Touring Team members faltered in their semis bid when they lost to the No. 1 pair of Leacy Argent and Zoey

In the girls U14 singles, Miyawaki will try to gain a quarterfinals slot when she challenges No. 1 seed Chiara Di Tommaso of Australia. The Commonwealth player earned the right to face Di Tommaso in Round 3 after getting a bye in the first round and registering a tough win against Chelsea Mgrath in the second round. Miyawaki won the extended opening set, 7-5, but missed a sweep when her Aussie foe took the second, 6-4. However, Miyawaki regained her bearings in the super-tiebreaker third

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	24	12	.667	—
Boston	23	14	.622	1½
New York	17	20	.459	7½
Philadelphia	9	25	.265	14
Brooklyn	8	27	.229	15½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	21	16	.568	—
Charlotte	20	18	.526	1½
Washington	17	18	.486	3
Orlando	16	22	.421	5½
Miami	11	27	.289	10½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	27	8	.771	—
Indiana	20	18	.526	8½
Milwaukee	18	17	.514	9
Chicago	19	18	.514	9
Detroit	17	21	.447	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	30	7	.811	—
Houston	29	9	.763	1½
Memphis	23	16	.590	8
New Orleans	14	24	.368	16½
Dallas	11	26	.297	19

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	23	15	.605	—
Oklahoma City	22	16	.579	1
Portland	16	22	.421	7
Denver	14	23	.378	8½
Minnesota	11	26	.297	11½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	31	6	.838	—
L.A. Clippers	25	14	.641	7
Sacramento	15	21	.417	15½
L.A. Lakers	14	26	.350	18½
Phoenix	12	25	.324	19

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ing in the first round before missing a seat to the second. The Grace Christian Academy student shut down Australia's Zachary David Reid in their opening match, 6-0, 6-0. Woo was then paired against the No. 3 seed Wilkinson, who eliminated the CNMI bet following a 6-2, 6-2 victory in the second round. Paik also got the boot in the boys U12 singles after bowing to the No. 12 Maxwell Priest, 3-6, 4-6.

2016 SSS Christmas Youth Futsal Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Betde's Jamin Elliot dives for the save during their game against Newcastle FC in the co-d U16 division of the 2016 Saipan Soccer School Christmas Youth Futsal Tournament held late last month at the TSL Sports Complex.



Kanoa Mighty Orange, right, and Kanoa Ali'i players battle for the ball during their co-ed U12 match.



Astig's Alan Hinson uses his body to deflect the ball.



A Kanoa Ali'i player, center, kicks the ball.



Kanoa Ali'i and Kanoa Mighty Orange players chase the ball.



Newcastle FC's Mareko Tepokua, center, attempts a shot in front of two Betde defenders.



Newcastle FC's Joshua Abragan faces two Betde defenders.



Astig goalie John Bucayo picks up the ball.



Rumbling again,
Thomas Rawls
leads Seattle
past Detroit

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Westbrook's 17th
triple-double lifts
Thunder past
Nuggets

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017

3 junior netters stay alive

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three CNMI players are still in contention in the 2017 Margaret Court Cup in Australia.



Malika Miyawaki moved into the third round of the girls U14 singles after winning her opening match last Friday at the Albury Grasscourts in Albury, New South Wales, while the pair of Seung Jin Paik and Ji Min Woo are in the quarterfinals of the boys U12 doubles event.

Paik and Woo swept Australia's Jay Coxon and Spencer Finch last Saturday, 6-1, 6-1, to advance to the second round where they were pitted against another Land Down Under pair—George Collins and Isaac King. The two Commonwealth players went on to pull off an upset over their seventh-seeded foes, 6-3, 6-1, to gain a quarterfinal entry.

In the Round of 8, Woo and Paik will have an even tougher assignment as they face the top-ranked pair of Charlis Ca-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Seung Jin Paik chases down the ball during his boys U14 singles game against Sean Lee in last month's TanHoldings Tennis Classic at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

mus and Cooper Glen Wilken-son today. The No. 1 seeded team drew a bye in the first round before downing Joshua

Goodland and Lachlan Wei in the second, 7-5, 6-0, to barge into the quarterfinals of the boys U12 doubles.

In the boys U12 singles, Woo had an impressive show-

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QQ Rent A Car, Gen Cup prevail

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

QQ Rent A Car and Gen Cup played better in the second half to top their respective foes in the 2016 TanHoldings Christmas Basketball Tournament last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Gen Cup edged 670 Thunder in the curtain-raiser, 50-48, to gain its first win in three games in the boys U17 division, while QQ Rent A Car also earned its first victory following a 37-18 triumph over Shirley's Coffee Shop in the second match in the women's category.

QQ Rent A Car improved its shooting in the final 20 minutes of play, which started with the team just ahead by 3 points, 15-12. The Mark and Catherine Toves-coached QQ



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

QQ Rent A Car's Riley Buenaventura, left, and Joannie Paraiso, right, challenge the shot of Shirley's Coffee Shop's Ester Jones during the second half of their women's division game in the TanHoldings holiday caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Rent A Car made 11 field goals in the second half against only three from Shirley's (0-3) en route to the former's 9-point victory.

Shirley's has yet to barge into the win column as it went scoreless against QQ Rent A Car in the first eight minutes and change of the second half. A banked shot from Ester Jones ended Shirley's silence, but it was not enough to spark a comeback, as QQ Rent A Car managed to gain enough cushion to get the win.

Theresa Toves and Louisa Han hit double figures for QQ

See QQ on Page 26

TanHoldings 1 crushes GPPC in opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

TanHoldings 1 is now the early favorite in the 2017 JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League following its demolition of GPPC, 118-63, during the opening game yesterday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

TanHoldings 1 established an early double-digit lead after the first period and showed no mercy against the hapless GPPC in the next three quarters en route to a 55-point winning margin.

Five TanHoldings 1 players scored in twin digits in their rout of GPPC with Douglas Schmidt leading the way with his 26 points. Ernest Duenas chipped in 21, while his cousin Matt and Jarett Matsutaro contributed 16 each, and Dindo Pablo finished with 14.

Schmidt made his presence felt in the game right from the get-go as he

knocked in 6 of TanHoldings 1's first 8 points. He went on to tally 7 markers, while his six other teammates also hit the board in the opening canto, lifting TanHoldings 1 to a promising 27-13 advantage.

Schmidt and company kept pressing in the last three quarters to pad their lead. TanHoldings 1 was so merciless that its fourth-quarter output was more than the entire production of GPPC in the second half, 39-38.

Ernest Duenas made the exclamation in TanHoldings 1's game-long domination by hitting a corner triple at the buzzer. Duenas helped TanHoldings 1 deliver the killer blows in the fourth, as he recorded 11 of his total markers in the final canto. Bart Demapan also came out in the fourth frame, scoring all his 9 points in that period. Alex Ocampo had 20

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TanHoldings 1's Matt Duenas, left, pulls up for an open jumper, while his teammate Ernest Duenas, center, and GPPC's Alex Ocampo get ready for the rebound during the fourth quarter of the opening game in the JEM/Mobil caging yesterday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.